

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Oberland Trade Report.

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BIRTH.

At Kirt, Scotland, on 7th instant, the wife of WILLIAM NICHOLSON, of a son. [718]

MARRIAGE.

On April 24th, at Shanghai, JOHN ARTHUR, the youngest son of the late NELS MOLLER, of Shanghai, to NELLIE AUSTIN, eldest daughter of the late J. MACTAVISH and Mrs. S. M. McLEISH, of Shanghai.

On April 29th, 1909, at Shanghai, SAMUEL HOUSTON KEAN, to FLORENCE CAROLYN, elder daughter of Capt. and Mrs. A. E. FLAGG.

DEATH.

On April 26th, at Shanghai, JANE ELLE ANDERSON, aged 40 years.

ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The German Mail of the 7th April arrived on Wednesday the 5th inst per s.s. *P. E. Friedrich*.

The French Mail of the 9th April arrived per s.s. *Polynesien* on the 10th inst.

Hongkong Weekly Press.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VŒUX ROAD C.L.
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FAR EASTERN NEWS.

Wireless telegraphy has been installed at the Palace Hotel, Shanghai.

The Yamato Hotel at Dalny has been enlarged to accommodate 70 guests.

Sir Alexander Hosie has gone Home, via Siberia, on one year's leave of absence.

The Filipinos observed May 1st as Labour Day, and in consequence the Manila papers were not published on the 2nd inst.

The dry-dock "Dewey" is to be brought from Olongapo within the next six months to Cavite, to be permanently stationed there.

General van Heutsz, the Governor-General of Netherlands India, will retire from the high office at the expiration of his term of service in October.

Mr. M. Gotthardt, late assistant Workshop and Locomotive Superintendent, in the Royal State Railways of Siam, died at sea on his way down to Singapore on the steamer *Deliz*.

A Chinese contemporary states that H.E. Liang Tun-yen has been negotiating with the British and Dutch Ministers for the appointment of a Chinese Consul for Hongkong and Java.

Mr Behaghel, a German mining engineer, has entered the service of the Provincial Government Mining Board at Tientsin as an advisor. Mr. Behaghel was formerly Director of one of the Shantung Mining Companies.

Five Filipinos have been sentenced to be hanged and ten others to imprisonment for life for the murder of Charles H. Trotter, Vicente Toledo and Jose Cayuan in the foothills of Zambales Mountains last October.

Dr. Beelaerts von Blokland, the new Minister for the Netherlands, has arrived at the Capital. His Excellency travelled by the Siberian route. Until lately, he held the position of secretary to the Netherlands Parliament at the Hague.

News has reached Japan by cable of the death of the Rev. William Ashmore, D.D., formerly of Swatow. Dr. Ashmore retired six years ago after about 52 years service as a missionary in China, and had since been living in Canada.

The Chinese Imperial High Commissioner, Tang Shao-yi, and other members of the special mission were received in audience by the German Emperor at Potsdam last month. The First Class of the Prussian Order of the Crown has been conferred upon Tang Shao-yi and upon the Duke Tsai-fu, and minor decorations have been conferred upon other members of the mission.

Hundreds of foreigners have recently been visiting the Summer Palace at Peking, application having first to be made through the legations. The accommodation at the Peking Hotels has been taxed to the utmost. "So great is the crush," says a report, "that men are forced to sleep on billiard tables and in other inconvenient places." The boom in the Hotel trade in Peking is described as unprecedented.

When the steamer *Djambi* which was sunk some few months ago by a French Mail steamer was put up to auction at Singapore last week the highest bid offered was \$300. The steamer was bought in and will again be put up for auction.

The total amount of income from monopolies of the Formosan Government for the past fiscal year is Y. 9,616,770, a deficit of Y. 4,234,641 as against the estimates. The sum of Y. 1,468,048 still remaining uncollected, the actual deficit amounts to Y. 2,766,593.

A Washington telegram states Senators A. J. Beveridge of Indiana, Weldon B. Heyburn of Idaho and Joseph F. Johnston of Alabama have been appointed on a special committee to prepare a new tariff for the Philippine Islands. The appointment of the committee has grown out of the discussion of Colton tariff bill before the Upper House and the numerous amendments that have been proposed and adopted by that body.

We have been favoured by the publishers with a copy of the *War Cry*, the Salvation Army journal, in which we notice several references to the work of the Army in Japan and Korea. There is a picture of a property acquired at Dalny by the Army. A substantial hall put up by the Russians as a general post office has been purchased there for 3,600 yen, and the proposed alterations and the building of a wall round the property will cost another thousand yen.

The first of the China Consular Reports for the year 1908 is to hand. It is the report on the Trade of Antung by Mr. W. P. M. Russell, the acting Consul, who says that having regard to the general trade depression throughout the north of China, Antung trade may be said on the whole to have been satisfactory through the year, and that merchants, both Chinese and Japanese, seem to look forward with confidence to a promising season in view of the decision to reconstruct the railway to Mukden, which will conduce to commercial activity in many directions.

With reference to the resignation of Mr. C. W. Kinder, C.M.G., who for thirty years has been the Engineer-in-Chief and General Manager of the Imperial Railways of North China, an old resident informs us that Mr. Kinder's father was Major Kinder, R.E. who came out to Hongkong as Master of the Mint when it was first established here, and when its brief existence in the Colony ended and the stamping machinery was sold to the Japanese Government, Major Kinder went to Japan with it and ran the first Japanese Mint for five years, 1870 to 1875.

A defence of the climate of Tonkin is made by *L'Annuaire-Tonkin*. The writer says it has an exaggerated reputation for insalubrity. In refutation of this he points to the mortality statistics which he says show that the Tonkinese climate is particularly favourable to children and old people. The writer deduces also from the statistics that "paradoxical as it may seem," the European is more acclimatised to Tonkin than the native. Anyone looking at the mortality statistics of Hongkong might at first sight draw similar conclusions; but, as we have often pointed out, such deductions are not justifiable, because whenever Europeans, and especially children and the old people, fall ill they leave the East for more bracing climates.

His Majesty the Emperor of Korea was vaccinated recently for the first time, reports the *Korea Daily News*. The operation was successfully performed by the vice-superintendent of the Dai Han hospital.

A few weeks ago the manager of the Shanghai Tramways addressed a letter to the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce on the subject of Chinese currency. In response to subsequent representations by the Chamber, the Diplomatic Body has nominated a Committee composed of several of their number to enter into direct negotiations with the Waiwupu.

We recently mentioned that Messrs. Butterfield and Swire were opening a branch office at Dalny on the 1st inst. We note that Messrs. Samuel, McGregor and Co. of Shanghai, are also establishing themselves in the port, Mr. C. J. White being in charge. Mr. W. H. Levy, partner of Messrs. Samuel, Samuel and Co. London, and Mr. D. McGregor of Shanghai, have recently paid a visit to Dalny in connection with the matter.

The Inauguration of Wor. Bro. Robert Sutcliffe Ivy as Right Worshipful District Grand Master of Northern China F.C., took place at the Masonic Hall, Shanghai, on the 3rd ult. Wor. Bro. T. F. Hough, D.D.G.M. of Hongkong and South China, assisted by his officers conducted the ceremony of Installation, in the presence of a large gathering of Masons. After the ceremony, a banquet was given at the Club Concordia at which toasts appropriate to the occasion were duly honoured.

A Captain in the Japanese infantry has been dismissed from the service on proof being obtained of his association with the revolutionary movement in China. After the war with Russia he is stated to have maintained communication with Sun Yat-sen. Sent to Hirosaki, he found himself in a position which made it very inconvenient to keep in touch with the Chinese revolutionists. In December last he returned to Tokyo on leave of absence on the pretext of illness, travelled between Shizuoka, Nagoya, and Tokyo in company with Chinese revolutionists. Recognising the obstacles to free action whilst in the army he sent in his resignation. The War Office entertained suspicions of his movements and investigated the circumstances through the Gendarmerie. Discovering that he was associated with Chinese revolutionists, his resignation was refused and he was dismissed from the service.

In commenting upon what it terms the British annexation of the Siamese Malay States, a Haiphong newspaper *Annam-Tonkin*—points out that such a step had been long anticipated. The Treaty which parcelled out Siam into British and French spheres of influence rendered such an action inevitable, and Britain is quite within her rights in bringing about the annexation. But our contemporary says that France must now see to strengthening her hold on the French sphere. Under the Treaty she has rights in the Siamese territory within the valley of the Mekong River, on the right bank. The Journal declares that the boundary line should be shifted so as to follow the parting which divides the feeders of the Mekong from those of the Menam and Salween rivers. This will give France territory which she requires for the commercial development of Laos, the trade of which is now in the hands of Siamese, British, and German with Bangkok as centre.

Captain A. S. Wilson, a pilot, committed suicide at Shanghai last week in the old cemetery at Palsienyao. The circumstances of the suicide are full of pathos. The deceased, who had been married twice, and whose wives were buried in the cemetery, was seen wandering in the vicinity of their graves early in the morning. He returned to the cemetery at 1 p.m. and about 2.10 p.m. the gardener heard the report of a revolver shot. Captain Wilson had ended his life on the grave of his first wife, and it was across it that the body was found when the police arrived on the scene. No document of any kind was found on deceased's person, but it is believed that for some time past he had been depressed by financial worry. By profession he was a pilot, and though he had not been employed for some time, he was offered the task of taking a vessel up to Wuhu a few days previously. This offer he refused. His first wife died in 1886; the second three years ago. Deceased was about sixty years of age.

THE BRITISH BUDGET.

(Daily Press, May 1st.)

Now we know the "hen roosts" the Chancellor of the British Exchequer has for six months past had it in his mind to rob. Careful estimates of the increasing expenditure and the falling revenue showed months ago that the Chancellor would be obliged to raise something like fifteen millions of new taxation. The actual amount is sixteen and a half million sterling. Mr. LLOYD GEORGE had himself told the country that he was not going to tax the working people, and another member of the Government in a burst of frankness last Autumn predicted that when the Government proceeded to raise the money to meet the expected deficit they would be described as a set of thieves and plunderers. These two declarations indicated pretty clearly the nature of the proposals the Chancellor of the Exchequer would embody in his Budget statement. Ever since then there has been a settled conviction in the public mind that the Government were relying on some drastic method of graduated taxation, and the telegraphic summary of the Budget statement which we publish this morning shows the inference to have been perfectly correct. The Budget has been framed on the lines of what Mr. LLOYD GEORGE would call "true, democratic finance." In the case of earned income not exceeding £500 there is to be some abatement of the tax in respect of every child under sixteen years of age who is maintained out of that income; and there is to be no increase in the income tax on earned incomes not exceeding £3,000 per annum; but incomes above that amount are to be charged an extra 2d in the £ (making 1s 2d in all), while in the case of incomes exceeding £5,000 per annum it is proposed to impose what is called a "super tax" of 6d in the £, so we take it that the man earning over £5,000 a year will have to pay income tax at the rate of 1s. 8d. in the £. Then, in addition, there is to be a "re-adjustment" of the death and succession duties to provide another four millions, or about 20 per cent more than they do now. And it is quite in accordance with Mr. LLOYD GEORGE's ideas of democratic finance that motors should be made to bear a much heavier tax than they bear now. Four-wheel motors not exceeding one ton pay a license fee of two guineas, while motors not exceeding five tons pay a fee of five guineas. It is proposed that the scale of taxation on these vehicles shall in future range from two to forty guineas! During the last two or three years there has been a great development of this traffic in England. According to the latest statistics to which we are able to refer there were in Great Britain at the end of 1907, 61,617 motor cars used for touring purposes, and 4,124 used for commercial purposes, while the number of motor cycles in use was 53,877. As compared with the returns for 1906, the percentage of increase in the case of touring cars was 34; and in that of commercial cars 52. With increase of competition in this industry and consequent cheapening of cost, we may suppose that the number of such vehicles in use at the present time shows a substantial increase on the figures we have quoted. The motorist is still further attacked by the proposal to place a tax of 3d per gallon on petrol, the fuel he uses. Then we have the taxation of unearned increments in the value of urban land, as well as a tax on undeveloped urban land. The Licensed Victuallers are required to bear increased

burdens in the way of taxes and licences, and the duties on spirits and tobacco are increased.

The Budget proposals are in short a direct attack on Capital. So far as the increased tax on motors is concerned, we fancy that would be widely approved if the proceeds found their way into the treasuries of the local governments who, as motor cars have come into general use, have had to increase their expenditure on the maintenance of the public highways. But it is not for this that the increased toll is demanded by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. It is doubtless a popular thing to propose a system of democratic finance such as Mr. LLOYD GEORGE has invited the House of Commons to adopt; but in practice people are far too apt to find that what is called taxing the capitalist usually ends in taxing the labourer, for the rich man, though he may groan and declare that he is being robbed, generally manages to shift the burden on to other shoulders. There can be no doubt whatever in the minds of all thoughtful men that legislation of this character is likely to do incalculable injury to the country, and is certain to retard that improvement in trade which is the only solution of the problems of poverty and unemployment which the Government profess to be so anxious to solve.

A COMING REVOLUTION IN CHINA.

(Daily Press, May 3rd.)

However it is going to be brought about, signs are not wanting that China is ripening for a revolution, the greatest that has as yet happened in any Asiatic country. Whether it will be bloodless, or be accompanied with those scenes of rapine and disorder which have hitherto made changes of government in China a byword amongst the nations of the world, is hidden in the womb of futurity; but, as happened in Turkey the other day, the chances seem to indicate that the powers of re-action are so strong and so united that it seems impossible to bring about any single one of the reforms acknowledged to be needed for the continuance of the Empire without an appeal to arms. As usually happens before revolutions come to a head, the main trouble in China is financial; and the discovery of the enormous hoard amassed by the late EMPRESS DOWAGER, and veritably wrung from the tears of the nation, is not unlikely to quicken the outside demand for some radical change in the methods of imperial government; and this is likely enough to drive the reactionary party, still physically strong, into overt action on the first symptom of a real intention to put the views of the reforming party, which curiously enough has its headquarters in the present Regency, into practice.

We mentioned lately an instance of the power and determination of the re-actionary party to permit no interference with what it has come to consider as its vested rights, in the case of the *likin* forcibly levied on goods being conveyed by the Shanghai-Nanking Railway, which has resulted in the almost complete annihilation of the incipient goods traffic of the line. This action, evidently of prior intent, has brought the reactionary party into direct opposition to the Regency; and we find the latter proposing to take up the scheme foreshadowed in Sir JAMES MACKAY's abortive Convention, of raising the duties all round, and paying them direct to Peking; and it is doubtless in connection with this not altogether satis

factory step that the Regency has urgently pressed on Sir ROBERT HART the advisability of his immediate return to China. The hoard piled up in the time of China's most dire distress, by the late DOWAGER REGENT, while it emphasises the fact that the Central Government has no legitimate means of existence beyond what may be mildly described as organised piracy; also shows that even in the present inefficient system of Provincial finance, there is abundance to worthily support the Imperial dignity without having recourse to extra burdens on the people at large. The introduction of regular finance, in lieu of the present system of plunder in successive grades of the lower official hierarchy by their immediate superiors in office, which is finally by the lowest brought to bear on the people at large, would, of course, put out of court all the present methods of official promotion; and so far would engage against it all the sympathies of the hierarchy. That there are men in all grades of that hierarchy who see and feel the incubus of the false position in which they are placed, speaks well for the possibility of the eventual change coming from within.

A curious instance of the variant lights in which the position reveals itself to an official high up in the service of the State is afforded in a recent memorial of LIEN YU, the Imperial Resident at LASSA. LIEN YU has had three years' experience of the present system. He has, what not many officers of equivalent rank are in receipt of, a regular salary, but it is founded on old precedents, and is altogether insufficient to meet the requirements of the post. He can do like the others, and commit "abusive acts," but the conscience revolts at this. Affairs in Tibet are very important, but the country at large has been mismanaged and its industries ruined; the climate besides is very rigorous, and he despairs of being able to bring about better conditions unless he be placed in funds, and asks for an advance of at least a million taels to enable him to revive the industries of the land—a thing which he points out is in the interest of China herself. As evidently he has little hope of Peking acceding to this request of his, he asks to be permitted to come to Peking to Imperial Audience, when he would have the opportunity of personally explaining the situation. There is, of course, much more in the memorial than at first sight meets the eye; under the late régime no provincial official willingly underwent the formalities of an audience, much less applied for one. When LIU K'WEN after the events of 1900 received a pressing invitation from the late REGENT to go in audience to Peking, the aged Viceroy knew well that it was his life that was required. Still he did not hesitate; he had done his duty, and Confucianism at least teaches a man under such circumstances to face death with dignity. Much as the DOWAGER would have desired his death, even she hesitated, and in face of the bold dignity of the officer felt she dared not give the final order. But LIEN YU actually asks for the audience to explain his scheme. The fact testifies plainly to the real change in the position under the new Regency. Moreover he has had the unprecedented effrontery to ask for a rise of pay and allowances. Under the late régime such a request would have elicited as much wonderment, as when OLIVER TWIST before astonished bumbledom asked for more. The least under the circumstances LIEN YU might have anticipated would have been immediate dismissal, followed by confiscation of all that he possessed; and he might have considered himself fortunate if he escaped with his head, or at least without banishment. Instead, he obtains a sympathetic

reply from the new REGENT informing him that on account of the importance of the post, and his capable dealing with its difficulties his request for leave would cause inconvenience to the service. The other items of the memorial are not replied to, but meet with no censure. Reading between the lines it is rendered clear that the fault lies not with the wishes of the administration, but with the opposition of the Provincials; the Board concerned is, in fact, quite willing to advance the funds as far as lies in its power, but is quite unable to requisition the provinces, and has no legitimate revenues of its own; he is, however, requested to keep the REGENT well informed privately by telegram as to all that is going on, especially as to that "other nation" which he suggested might in future show a desire to take the lead in Tibet, which the REGENT quite agrees with the Resident would be a thing likely to lead to regrettable consequences in the near future.

The whole is an instructive instance of the difficulty in introducing even preliminary reforms where, as in China, the body politic has once permitted itself to become atrophied. Peking, alike with the Provinces, is well assured that the Empire is tottering under its burdens, which all admit are quite capable of remedy, yet each fears the immediate effect on his own fortunes should he be the first one to attempt to remove a rotten plank. Decay has gone so far that it is uncertain what the removal of a single plank may bring about as its immediate consequences; and although, were all united, this danger could be safely faced, in the present disunited condition of parties, where each one is striving after his own hand, no one has that confidence in his neighbour which will induce common action. This it is, and not the immediate difficulty of the task, that renders the immediate future fraught with uncertainty; and seems to foreshadow the almost utter hopelessness of looking for a peaceful solution.

PRATAS ISLAND.

(Daily Press, May 4th.)

Apparently no settlement has been reached between the Governments of China and Japan regarding the Pratas Island. While Japan has shown no desire to claim sovereignty over an island lying in the steamer track between Hongkong and Manila because a Japanese subject makes the absurd pretension of having discovered it, yet Japan has asked for the protection of the interests of the Japanese syndicate which has been exploiting the resources of the island. We observe in a Japan contemporary the statement that the Japanese Foreign Office recently required from Mr. NISHISAWA, the head of the Syndicate, a statement showing the amount of money he has invested in the island, and the amount is returned as "about 400,000 yen." It is inferred that the Government of Japan is prepared to settle the dispute either on the basis that the Chinese Government will afford protection to the business started by Japanese subjects there, or that they will pay compensation for disturbance. Judging from the attitude of the Chinese papers it is not improbable that the Chinese Government will hesitate to do either the one thing or the other; for it is urged by the Chinese newspapers that inasmuch as China's claim to ownership of the island cannot be disputed, the Japanese syndicate has been "unlawfully removing valuable products from Chinese territory without the knowledge or consent of the

Imperial Chinese Government, or in other words stealing things lawfully belonging to China." This is the forcible way in which the matter is placed by *Chinese Public Opinion*, which urges that the Japanese Government should at once see to it that the stolen properties are restored to China or that she is properly indemnified. We do not know whether this represents the attitude of the Chinese Government on the subject; if it does, there can be little prospect of a speedy settlement of the incident. A series of ably written articles on the subject has been appearing in our Peking contemporary, in which many authorities on International Law have been quoted to sustain the contention that Japan has no legitimate claim whatever to the island or its products. Authority has been quoted for the statement that "title by occupation is gained by the discovery, use and settlement of territory not occupied by a Civilised Power," and that "discovery gives only an inchoate title, which must be confirmed by use or settlement." One authority is quoted by our contemporary as affirming that "All mankind have an equal right to things that have not yet fallen into the possession of any one, and those things belong to the person who first takes possession of them. When, therefore, a nation finds a country uninhabited and without an owner, it may lawfully take possession, &c." That is precisely the Japanese case. The Japanese Syndicate found a country uninhabited and apparently without an owner. Geographically, Pratas Island, no doubt, belongs to China, but the whole trouble has been that the island has not been continuously occupied by anyone. Chinese fishermen have been accustomed to resort to the island at certain seasons of the year, but it is probably true that when the Japanese went there to ship phosphates they found the place uninhabited. Our Peking contemporary has said that to ask China to furnish proof of ownership of this island is on a par with asking Japan to produce her title deed to a small island in the Island Sea. We fancy Japan would be able to produce immediately very conclusive proof of ownership, and be able to show that there is no island in the Inland Sea over which the rights of ownership have not been continuously exercised. But China has so neglected to exercise sovereignty over the Pratas Island that it was only at the end of last year that the discovery was made that Japanese were exploiting the phosphates there, though they have been doing so for a number of years past.

SLAVERY IN HONGKONG.

(Daily Press, May 5th.)

Complaints are fairly rife among the Chinese of the Colony that kidnapping has become unusually prevalent of late, and though the matter is, as usual, engaging the attention of the police, there seems to be little redress or solace for the bereaved parents. It may be said, of course, that with such a large proportion of Chinese within our borders it is impossible to expect to be free from many of the offences and crimes peculiar to China, and that kidnapping is one of them. The thought is not a pleasant one. Already in this column we have pointed out the extent of the trafficking in human life which goes on in and out of the colony, and we have urged that measures be taken with a view to helping the police in their work. At present the criminal law does not assist them as much as it ought. Where a purchase has

been completed, whether the child be stolen or not, it sanctions the transaction to this extent: that whereas the man or woman who would be liable on a criminal charge of "receiving," knowing the goods to have been stolen, were the goods ordinary chattels, is in a different category when he or she buys a child which may have been abducted. On proof of the abduction being established the child may be withdrawn from the possession of the purchaser, but no proceedings could be taken against him unless there be direct evidence of his complicity in the abduction. So far as there is any direct, or indirect sanction by the law of this traffic in children in the Colony, it is highly desirable that an alteration should be made, but it is not likely to be made until public opinion is focussed on this point and articulate expression is given to the desire that this should no longer be allowed.

It is fairly well known with what object boys and girls are stolen from their parents and sold. The boy may be brought up as an adopted son by some Chinaman eager to obtain those posthumous honours and attentions which bulk so largely in the belief of the Chinese, or he may be trained by some tradesman with a view to making money by disposing of him as a skilled artisan of some sort, or he may be simply held to ransom. The girl may be kept as a servant or perhaps sold into houses where she enters on a life of degradation. The trafficking in human lives is much more common in China than here, but it is not satisfactory to know that this degrading business is carried on under the British flag. It is the proud boast that all who come under the protection of the Union Jack are free but an exception is found at Hongkong, where numbers remain in what is nothing less than bondage. Slavery is not a nice word, but none the less it can be truthfully applied to the conditions which obtain in many cases in the colony. Parents and guardians in Hongkong, it is known, have to take more than ordinary precautions to guard their children or their wards. The little ones cannot be trusted to go to school by themselves, not because of ordinary street risks, but because the fear of abduction is constantly before them. During the last week or so many reputable Chinese citizens have lost their children, and the kidnapping has become so extensive that the opinion is generally entertained that a large kidnapping gang must be operating in the colony. That is not for us to say. The matter is one for the police, who are faced with a difficult task in attempting to track those malefactors and restore the stolen children to their distraught parents. The task however, is one which should not be beyond their resources. In some instances they have been successful, and doubtless they would be more so if the law afforded them greater assistance. In this connection it is interesting to recall the extraordinary stories that are circulated, apparently by the kidnapping gangs, so as to stifle inquiry. When any great undertaking is commenced, such for instance as the construction of large docks, it is not infrequently stated that success will not be achieved until children have been thrown into the water to appease the devil who is playing the mischief with the foundations. Consequently when a child disappears from that locality, the parents invariably refrain from making inquiries because the "people say the devil has taken it." Thus the people's superstition is exploited by these nefarious gangs and the practice of kidnapping continues, but we may venture to express the hope that once public attention is directed to the subject the needed reforms will not long be withheld.

THE DEPOSITION OF THE SULTAN.

(Daily Press, May 6th.)

The opening years of the Nineteenth Century found Europe presided over by a batch of sovereigns the most intellectual of whom hardly reached the standard of bare mediocrity, and it was on account mainly of this low intellectual capacity of those who were intrusted with the interests of the Continent that a young French Lieutenant of Artillery succeeded in not only entering every capital; but in submitting the whole to his own private rule, and in establishing a Napoleonic family régime from the Atlantic to the Vistula. In curious contrast with this unpropitious beginning the close of the century found the interests of Europe in the hands of a number of monarchs, many of whom were distinguished by personal characteristics as individuals, and the whole of whom, almost without exception, were possessed of abilities far above those usually appertaining to the wearers of crowns. Perhaps it was only a case of natural action and reaction, and the simple effect of that ruling yet mysterious law of Nature that ever seeks to reduce things mundane to an average; yet whatever the cause the effect is outside the reach of controversy. Strangely, too, the phenomenon has not been confined to Europe, but has shown a distinct tendency to become world-wide.

If our own boorish King GEORGE III. for whom the nation could find no fitter appellation than "Farmer George", had at the close of the eighteenth century succeeded in almost bringing about the break-up of the British Empire; it curiously remained for his Grand-daughter, Queen VICTORIA, to be the first to restore the lost prestige of the ruling houses. Gifted with a mental capacity rather above the average, the main feature in her character was that, rarest amongst the rulers of the day, of an intense devotion to duty. The example set by her fortunately commended itself to her fellow monarchs, so that the latter half of the century was marked by an almost entirely new class of sovereigns, of whom more especially may be mentioned, the Emperor FRANCIS JOSEPH, King VICTOR EMANUEL (Re Galantuomo) and King OSCAR. The destructive wars of the beginning of the century had had a sedative effect, and the nations were bent rather on recuperation than on expansion; almost the only exception having been the Tsar NICOLAS I. of Russia. Not only the moral qualities were advanced, but towards the end of the century, and more so in the opening years of the twentieth, the intellectual grasp of the Rulers, be they in this respect crowned heads or presidents of Republics.

The improved intellectual grasp in Europe was apparently accompanied by a tendency to patronise the less advanced sovereigns and people of the East. Egypt fell under the protection of Great Britain; while Turkey, it was taken for granted, would under the benevolent aegis of a united Europe of her own account take the road towards more civilised administration. But the weak and incapable ABDUL ASIZ allowed himself to become the minion of a Russian representative, who stood by with complacency while he saw that Sultan knowing the vitals out of the land, and the people at last in desperation deposed their incapable ruler. A new sovereign placed hastily on the throne proved equally helpless, and after a few months, disorder, in August 1879 the late Sultan ABDUL HAMID was placed on the throne. As an intellectual

ruler, HAMID was no advance on his predecessor; as an administrator he proved little better, and Russia taking the opportunity to declare war, Turkey was reduced by the treaty of San Stefano, to the brink of extinction. Taking up the standpoint that the substitution of Russian rule for Turkish would be merely an exchange of King LOG for King STORK,—of Russian for Turkish barbarism,—the public opinion of Europe intervened, and Sultan ABDUL HAMID under the ordinance of the Congress of Berlin got a brand new tenure of the Sultanate,—this time, it was understood, to be administered during good behaviour.

But HAMID, although of as low mental calibre as his predecessor, and as little tormented with any conscientious scruples, possessed what often accompanies a low grade of intellect, a highly developed animal cunning. He soon saw that the mutual jealousies of the Powers would prevent them uniting for any effective measures of control; so, adroitly taking advantage of this weakness, and playing one against the other, he determined to rule as his momentary whim dictated, regardless of any expression of public opinion to the contrary. Germany, who had extensive schemes of her own regarding railways in Anatolia, now played the part formerly acted by Russia, and championed the Sultan in his reactionary policy; so that affairs, so far from improving went steadily from bad to worse, until last year disorder became so rampant in Bulgaria that the Powers found it actually necessary to establish an international constabulary. ABDUL HAMID though nominally coinciding in the arrangement made use of all his powers of intrigue to render the new force inutile, so that the disorders instead of abating actually grew worse. The disorders were not confined by any means to Bulgaria, but were spreading through the empire, in all parts of which disaffection was becoming rampant. It was under these circumstances that the more advanced party, finding remonstrance utterly useless, and the old reactionary party growing, becoming every day more influential with the Sultan, determined to make a bold stroke, and finding that the army at large was in favour of reform of the administration, rose en masse and demanded parliamentary government. Sultan HAMID at once saw that he had no power of resistance, so seemingly accepting with a good grace the inevitable he for a few days posed as a full-fledged constitutional monarch, and swore to accept the new Constitution. The foreign Powers, though they well knew the character of the sovereign with whom they were dealing, affected to believe the professions of the Sultan, and acknowledged with congratulations the new parliamentary régime.

But the leopard does not naturally change his spots, nor will any amount of washing turn the Negro white; so Sultan HAMID, while openly acknowledging the Parliament was all the while in secret plotting with the reactionaries its destruction, and doing his best to bring to Constantinople a sufficient number of troops devoted to the old régime. It was this that brought down on him the chiefs of the new army, who at once determined to march on Constantinople, and seize the Sultan before he had succeeded in re-establishing the old order. It is characteristic of the new state of affairs that the march on Constantinople was accomplished without any disorder; perfect discipline was maintained, and though a good deal of blood has been spilled, and an actual state of war has existed for some days, fighting has all been above board and no private plunder has to be deplored. It had become patent to all

that the Sultan's words could not be trusted, and that it would only lead to a renewal of disorder were he again to be restored to power, so it was arranged to quietly depose him, taking care to respect his person while depriving him of the means of renewing his intrigues. In all former cases of deposition in Turkey the deposed sovereign has had to pay the penalty of his misdeeds with his life. It was evident, however, that in the case of Sultan HAMID, the man himself was almost too insignificant to be made the object of mere revenge. Still it was clear that the new government could not afford to permit him to carry on with impunity his old intrigues; so it was decided to send him under strong guard to Salonika, a district known to be strongly constitutional, and keep him there in honourable captivity. Another man than the sometime Sultan HAMID would probably resent such treatment, but there is no reason to suppose that HAMID will, beyond the momentary annoyance of finding himself debarred from his old game, feel any indignity at his new position. For some thirty years it was only what he had inflicted on his own brother and heir presumptive, RESHID Effendi, and it has been the traditional fate of every near relative of the Turkish reigning house to be either put to death, or, if the reigning monarch were of milder disposition, to be blinded, or at the least imprisoned for life. To be shut up with the favourites of his harem in a palace at Salonika, will probably strike this last degenerate section of the house of Osman as not far removed from the height of human felicity. Sultan HAMID is now in his sixty-seventh year, so that his happy fate is little likely to meet with much sympathy at home or abroad. It is to be hoped that with his inclosure one pretext for Continental intrigue will be removed off the board. His successor who has seemingly learnt wisdom in the hard school of experience, is hardly likely to venture on the same dangerous sea that has brought his brother to an ignominious if personally pleasant enough end. Sultan MAHOMET V. has never displayed an unusual versatility of intellect, but on the other hand has been careful, with every temptation, to avoid being mixed up in dangerous political schemes; and this in Turkey's exhausted condition is a good omen for the future.

SECRET SOCIETIES IN CHINA.

(Daily Press, May 7th.)

It has been a favourite subject of discussion in the Far East how far the secret societies which exist so largely in China and in any place to which the Chinese resort, undermine all effective government, and how far it might be possible, by firm action, to put them down. Experience seems to prove that when once a secret society has been fairly started, it is almost impossible by any efforts of the Government to put an end to it. Certainly such has been the fact in China. All efforts made by the authorities have really proved useless. In one way or another they are evaded; and, if it is felt that the measures taken against a given secret society are becoming somewhat embarrassing to it, the name is changed and the opposition to law and order goes on as before. Many, who have had the welfare of China at heart, have despaired of any improvement in consequence of this canker in the body politic, and, seeing the enormous power which well-known secret associations have constantly exercised, this feeling of despair would seem to be fully justified. It has been urged that the Chinese Government themselves are responsible for a great deal of the unsound-

ness that exists in this direction; and it cannot be denied that to some extent this is true. There have been abuses on the part of those in authority which have been a sufficient cause for common action on the part of those who were subject to them; and common action in a country where anything in the form of opposition to the governing officials is severely visited, is likely very soon to take the form of secret conclaves, and these to lead to the formation of secret political associations. Once these last are formed, it is almost impossible to deal with them directly; and the only course which can be adopted to bring them to an end is to remove as far as possible, any *bona fide* grievances which have brought them into existence. This, even, is no easy task. When a system of combined secret opposition to authority has been well established, a force is at once evoked which ere long obtains a dominant influence in the secret society itself. The more temperate members soon lose all power, and the loud blustering desperadoes are those who are most listened to; who are able to exert most power over the other members and who force their action into the most dangerous directions. This is perfectly well known to the Chinese themselves; and the wonder is that people of so practical and common-sense a character are so readily attracted by such societies and so prone to form them wherever they may be. In Singapore such societies have existed for a long time past, and have caused the Government no little trouble. Of late years we have not heard so much of them as formerly, but they are still there and may at any time be an element with which the Colonial authorities may have to deal. During the short period that the Chinese have been in the Transvaal they began to form their inevitable associations, though fortunately no doubt from the fact that the Chinese were a constantly changing population, they did not do much harm there, beyond endeavouring to back up the Indians in their claims for full recognition as British subjects—in which attempt, they effected very little good for their Asiatic friends. Dangerous secret societies, such as those which exist in China itself, do not fortunately seem to take deep root in the various Colonies to which the Chinese resort—but the same tendency to combine "agin the Government" is manifested wherever the Celestial goes, and this is no doubt one of the reasons why he is looked upon as an unwelcome visitor in many places. In an ordinary way, however, such combinations in the Colonies do not go beyond making it necessary for the authorities to intervene to put down some disturbance between rival factions, as with the "Ghee Hing" and "To-Pei-Kong" in the Straits but in China itself the large secret societies have long been a terror to the officials and have often been able to set them at defiance. With their temporising instincts the Chinese authorities have been generally inclined, to look upon such societies when possible with a blind eye; and often to go so far as to come to a tacit understanding with them. Needless to say such a policy too frequently forms an encouragement to them, and upon general principles is open to serious objection. It is natural that a great deal should have been said from time to time against what seems on the surface unpardonable weakness; but, if temporising has often been carried too far by the Chinese, it must in fairness be admitted that there has been some excuse for it. When we consider how impossible it has often proved in European countries to deal with the same difficulties, we may make some allowance for the Chinese having equally failed to do so. We

have not to look further than Ireland to form some idea of the difficulty that has to be contended with. By all accounts at the present time there are parts of that country where the government is simply paralysed by secret associations, and where a man who incurs their displeasure is as helpless as any who might be denounced by similar societies in China. In Italy, in Russia, in France to some extent, and even in so steady-going and sober a country as Germany, among the so called socialists, similar combinations have of late years been causing much uneasiness and the wisest statesmen are unable to make much headway against them. We ought not therefore to be much surprised if the Chinese who have special traditional difficulties in regard to administration should be unable to do what much stronger Governments are powerless to effect, and should be tempted in a way to "hold a candle to the devil," and to abstain from adopting rigid methods which might possibly lead to mischief greater than that against which they were directed.

CHINA'S NAVAL AMBITIONS.

(Daily Press, May 8th.)

Imitation, it is said, is the sincerest form of flattery. Great Britain, Germany, France, Austria, America and other countries are concerning themselves at present with building up their armaments, and what more natural than that China, to whom those countries are supposed to stand as tutors and paragons, should seek to follow their example? For many years now China has been urged to follow in the paths which the western nations have trod for some time, and they have been held up to her as examples to be copied, with of course certain limitations. China has lagged in the march of progress, and she has been urged, and is still being urged, to quicken her pace and take a more honourable position in the vanguard of civilisation. Occasionally however, the question arises as to whether a certain course, ostensibly selected as making for progress, really attains that end—whether in fact it does not make for retrogression. When, for instance, we read that China is ordering guns for all her forts, that she is contemplating the re-organisation of her Navy, and that her army is being augmented and rendered more efficient may we not question the wisdom of such enterprises and in the present state of China's finances describe them as quixotic? It is undoubtedly necessary to have forces adequate to police the country, to repress piracy and robbery and to preserve peace, but it does not seem advisable that China should proceed further and endeavour to raise a large army and a mammoth fleet. Why should she engage in the same mad scramble as the western nations to possess standing armies whose numbers run into millions and to possess navies which cost vast sums of money? Already, we see countries as surely at war with each other as if the formal declaration had been made. The struggle at present does not exact a heavy toil of life: the contest is meanwhile more like a game at chess. Each watches the other's moves and endeavours to counteract them. Naval programmes are made to counter-balance each other and although the relations between the nations are nominally of the friendliest character, there is no gainsaying the fact that they are involved in a conflict as ruinous, as relentless, and as cruel as War. The competition of armaments is almost as disastrous to social progress as the clash of arms. Instead of those countries being an example to China they should be a warning.

ing to her. China, even if the state of her finances admitted of the realisation of her plans, has no need either of a large army or a large navy. Her integrity is assured. The Western nations stand as her sponsors, and if no higher motive inspire them international jealousy will effectually prevent any one nation from attempting to take advantage of China's weakness. With her integrity guaranteed, why should China seek to emulate the other countries in massing expensive armaments? It would be a foolish waste of money for her to attempt to emulate those countries, except in so far as the preservation of peace and the maintenance of law and order demanded. She would be better advised to let her development proceed on more peaceful lines. If the Chinese advocates of expansion in armaments think that it affords the quickest means of gaining respect and esteem for China in the world, they are sadly mistaken; and we venture to suggest that this object would be much sooner achieved by those reforms of an educational and administrative character about which there has been so much talk, but down to the present very little action. If the craze for a big Chinese Navy should become popular in China it might, however, do more than anything else to focuss public attention on the crying need for a radical reform of the financial administration, without which it is hopeless for the Jingoes to expect to see China possessed of a Fleet of Dreadnoughts or to keep any sort of Navy in a state of efficiency.

RANDOM REFLECTIONS.

What should we do without the weather to speak about? It helps us over conversational difficulties when we have nothing to say, and occasionally produces some interesting yarns like that of the Irishman who remembered the year when there were six weeks of snow in May! But though we have little or no weather lore here, there are many who cherish the conviction that the latest summer is always hotter than any of its predecessors. Of course we do not venture to contradict an opinion expressed with so much confidence, though we may hold different ideas on the subject ourselves.

Now who among us has known greater variability in the weather than during the past week? One day sweltering in a summer heat and absorbing cooling drinks; the next day glad to get back to warm clothes and anxious to conceal the shiver which we could not restrain. Such changes of temperature are decidedly trying, the more so that we foolishly thought we had got rid of all that when we left Europe with its samples of weather.

The low rate of exchange has given the sterling paid men a good innings, but those whose hopes lie in the opposite direction are beginning to smile now. The dollar is going up. It has risen practically a penny in a month and the tendency is still upward. Those who gamble on exchange should now be having a busy time making calculations.

Congratulations to Mr. C. A. Carr! He retains the proud position of the champion tennis player of Hongkong, and though he was not called upon to defend his position this year, there is little doubt that he would have succeeded in doing so. His play is without doubt beyond compare in the colony and some new arrival will have to appear before his laurels are wrested from him.

Apparently life is full of illusions and disillusionments. For years I have been under the impression that the church set its face against any man or woman attempting to read the future and yet I see the notice board of one of our local churches covered with a bill on which is writ large, "Fortune Telling." "Fortune telling" is of course one of those little deceptions which we know is a deception, but somehow I never

associated it with the church, though I am prepared to admit that both deal largely with the same. Both are concerned with the future of the individual. The one good feature which it seems to suggest is that the church is not so jealous of its privileges as before—that it does not mind competition.

I notice that the *Daily Press* is optimistic as to the future of the colony. It announces that the fact that the cases at the bankruptcy court being so few—only three this week—may be regarded as indicating that business in the colony is not so bad as it was. It is certainly one way of feeling the business pulse of the colony, and I have no doubt that there is good reason for feeling hopeful as to the future, the opium question notwithstanding.

We all like to be surprised by generosity, and it is no straining of language to say that a pleasant thrill was experienced by most folks in the colony on learning that Mr. Mody had increased his handsome offer of \$35,000 to the Seamen's Institute to \$50,000 on being acquainted with the difficulties in which the committee found themselves. If Mr. Mody has prospered in Hongkong he has shown that he is grateful, and the colony will not readily forget the name of a gentleman who has done so much for our public institutions.

Home papers tell us that there is a silk hat revival, that the threatened extinction of this hall mark of respectability is repulsed, and that for some reason or other the stove pipe is becoming popular again. The bicycle and the motor car bred in men a spirit of "don't-care-for-appearances," and one of its effects was that the silk hat went out of use. The period of soft hats and collars appears to be ended, and city men, I read, have now come to the conclusion that no headgear is so eminently suitable as the silk hat. Happily the popularity of the silk hat is not likely to strike Hongkong, where on Saturdays and Sundays we shall be content to wear our two-dollar straw or five-dollar topee when the sun is hot. Weddings excepted, but then we can always borrow a friend's!

To speak of waists, ladies' waists, I mean—not the kind spelt with an "e" and without an "i"—recalls love's young dream to some of us who have awakened and discovered the reality. Consequently no one will misunderstand me when I say that my feelings were somewhat mixed the other day when I read that fashion had decreed that ladies' waists were to be increased, that is to say the girths were now to measure twenty-four inches instead of the hitherto orthodox twenty-two inches. I have no doubt the ladies will enjoy the additional comfort afforded them by Dame Fashion (or is it Mr. Fashion?), though some will be foolish enough to regret the departure from the wasp-like ideal for the human form divine. I don't know how it will appeal to the beaux. They won't be able to circumference the waist so successfully as before, but the more frequent efforts to attain success may give them some solace.

I wonder if any of my readers have ever allowed their thoughts to wander at church and for a moment reflect upon the different coughs and wheezes heard at frequent intervals. The subject is very profound but to the casual observer it probably does not appear so. Yet a clerical friend once assured me that he could tell all about his congregation without even looking at them. Paramount is the assertive aggressive snort of the self-made man, whose length of purse is plainly indicated by the frequency of his outbursts and the volume of sound. The "hen-pecked" man, after a cautious glance at his soul mate, allows himself a discreet and timid cough, say once in twenty minutes. His better half in the mean time preserves a rigid silence and listens to the sermon, which she swallows carefully, lest a fit of coughing should upset the serenity of her toupee. The dry discordant cough of the atheist, who merely attends for form's sake, grates with that of the respectable attentive Christian while the resonant blast of the sinner drowns the fervent amen of the convert. But most distinctive of all is the "gin and bitters" cough; its pungency seems to envelop

the atmosphere and the peculiar click of its delivery suggests the chink of glasses and the popping of corks. I hope all who are afflicted will take heed next Sunday lest they become 'the cynosure of all eyes.'

RODERICK RANDOM.

HONGKONG.

The temperature in Hongkong on the 1st inst. fell to 63 deg. Fah.—a drop of 20 degrees in two days.

The name of Mr. George Leopold Wilson has been added to the list of authorized architects in the Colony.

On May 1st the Dutch flag was hung from many buildings in the city in honour of the birth of a princess in Holland.

Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Principal Civil Medical Officer of Health, left by the *Siberia* on May 3rd for home, on leave.

Prosecutions for failing to stamp receipts are still taking place at the Magistracy. On May 4th five cases were dealt with and the usual fine of \$25 imposed in each case.

Under a regulation made by the Governor-in-Council no dogs brought from Bangkok will be permitted to land in this Colony for a period of six months from May 1st, 1909.

Mr. J. C. Peter, sub-manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, and Mrs. Peter were among the passengers who left by the P. and O. mail steamer last week for Home.

At the Marine Magistrate's Court on May 6 Commander Basil Taylor, R.N., fined two boatwomen and a boatman each \$30 for failing to exhibit regulation lights.

A Chinese merchant appeared before Mr. F. A. Hazeland at the Magistracy on May 1st on two charges of failing to stamp receipts. On each count he was fined \$25.

A Chinese blacksmith, while engaged putting up wire netting round Mr. Jupp's tennis court at 16 The Peak, on the 4th inst., accidentally overbalanced and fell a distance of 70 feet. He died almost immediately.

Four messroom boys from H.M.S. "Moorhen" were brought before Mr. Hazeland at the Magistracy on May 5th charged with having stolen quantities of jam and tea. One was discharged but the others were sentenced to six weeks' imprisonment each.

An order made by the Governor-in-Council and published in the *Government Gazette*, lays down that there shall be established two District Land Offices in the New Territories. One District is to be known as the Northern District and the other as the Southern District. The office for the Northern District is to be situate at Tai Po, and the office for the Southern District in the City of Victoria.

A meeting of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace was held at the Magistracy on May 1st afternoon to consider an application from Carl Fiedler for permission to remove Weismann's business to 4, Des Vœux Road Central. Mr. J. H. Kemp presided, and there were also present Messrs. F. J. Badeley, C. D. Melbourne and R. H. A. Craig. No police objection being offered, the application was granted.

While a gasfitter was connecting a pipe in the moulding room of the Quarry Bay Shipyard, the board on which he sat slipped out of one of the rope loops by which it was supported, and the fitter fell to the ground, a drop of about 30 feet. He was immediately removed to hospital, but it is not expected that he will recover from the effects of his fall.

An interesting opium case was mentioned at the Magistracy on May 5th. A Chinese residing at 3 Jubilee Street had been found with a quantity of opium in his possession, and he had been liberated on a bail of \$60, which was about the value of the opium. Since then the excise officers discovered, concealed in the ceiling of the house, a long tube which had apparently held about 40 mace. When defendant did not appear at the Magistracy yesterday Mr. Hoggarth, excise officer, informed his Worship that the bail was inadequate but Mr. Hazeland replied that he was sorry he could not assist as it was a matter to be arranged with the police. The bail was accordingly estreated.

A fine of \$100 was imposed on May 7th at the Magistracy on a pig dealer for having imported a diseased pig from Cheungshawan and with having it in his possession with intent to sell it for food for human consumption.

On the 7th inst, Mr. B. James, Head Master of Kowloon School, presented Mrs Drummond, the late Second Mistress, on behalf of the staff and pupils, with a silver rose-bowl, as a memento of the esteem in which she was held by all connected with the School. Mrs Drummond leaves for Scotland on Monday.

Shortly after three o'clock on Saturday morning fire broke out in a stationer's shop at 130, Des Voeux Road. The fire had a good hold of the premises before the alarm was raised, and as a strong wind was blowing at the time, the efforts of the brigade to save the shop proved fruitless. The shop, and the two upper floors which were used as dwellings, were gutted, the damage being estimated at \$5,000, which is covered by insurance.

There was a slight mishap on the Peak tramway on the 7th instant. In stopping the 9.50 down car at the Barker Road station the apparatus for signalling to the engine house broke on coming in contact with the insulators. The car was stopped and one of the Tramway Company's European employees who was on the car as a passenger ran up the track and quickly re-appeared with a break down gang. The broken apparatus was disconnected and the car proceeded after a delay of ten minutes.

For snatching money from a money changer's counter a Chinese was at the Magistracy on Thursday sentenced to six weeks' hard labour and six hours' exposure in the stocks. On the way back to the Police Station, after having been exposed in the stocks, the prisoner hit his custodian over the eye with his handcuff, splitting open the policeman's forehead, and then took to his heels. He was recaptured however, and was yesterday sentenced to a further six weeks' hard labour and a further six hours' exposure in the stocks on the completion of his term of imprisonment.

There are people in Hongkong who have not yet learned that it is inadvisable to tamper with the course of justice in Hongkong. A few days ago a man was stabbed in Gough Street, though not very seriously, and the case should come on for hearing before the Magistrate one of these days. Some men were, however, apparently very anxious that the plaintiff should not appear as a witness against the man charged with the offence, and on Monday they attacked the plaintiff near the Central Market. He fled from them but they followed and beat him most unmercifully. Eventually the police came on the scene and several arrests were made. These prisoners were brought before Mr. Hazeland at the Magistracy on May 4th. The case was remanded.

The police stopped a brilliant enterprise on the part of a Chinese on board the steamer *Honam*. This worthy came across a book of disused cinematograph tickets which was thrown out of Weissmann's during the removal, and quick to realise its commercial possibilities went on board the steamer and purported that he could sell passage tickets for twenty cents less than the price demanded on board. Of course he told his victims that they were to keep the matter quiet. He succeeded in disposing of quite a number and then the police intervened. Brought before Mr. Kemp at the Magistracy on May 3rd he was sentenced to three months' imprisonment and to undergo three hours' exposure in the stocks.

The Philippine Commission has taken up the slavery and involuntary servitude question in the islands with the intention of putting a stop to it. Commissioner Worcester has presented to that body a bill providing that all slavery involuntary servitude, which is very common all over the islands, peonage, or sale of human beings, shall be illegal and providing the punishment to be meted out to those who do not obey the law on this subject. This law, says a Manila contemporary, should it pass the Assembly will put a stop to the very common practice among Spanish and Filipino families of loaning money to native parents and taking a child in bond for the repayment of the debt, holding the child at times for many years and sometimes, in the case of the death of the parents, forever.

GARDEN FETE IN HONGKONG.

It is remarkable that until May 5th a garden fete has not been held in the colony for at least fifteen years, and the charm of novelty, added to the philanthropic object, contributed to making the al fresco event of Wednesday afternoon more than ordinarily attractive. A garden fete conjures up visions of British womanhood in most picturesque surroundings, with music adding to the gaiety of the occasion, but that which took place on Wednesday would not lose by comparison with anything we recall of the homeland. The ladies were there looking well in their role of tea table assistants and of course where the ladies are there the gentlemen are also. The Botanic Gardens afforded an ideal location for the fete, and the few tents and matcheds that were erected for the accommodation of the various side shows peeped out picturesquely from leafy shades.

The terrace near the fountain was chosen as the scene of the cafe chantant and here tables, with a tempting display of dainties, were placed on the side walks, a large marquee being erected at the top to give accommodation for larger parties. Close by was a stage, on which the performers during the afternoon took their stand. Here an interesting programme of songs, etc., was gone through in the course of the afternoon. Other stalls were found in convenient situations, and a temporary theatre was built near to the area reserved for the cafe chantant, while on the higher ground Mr. Ho Kom Tong and Mr. Choa Leep Chi had a tea and aerated water stall where welcome refreshment could be obtained.

The garden fete, which was arranged in aid of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Home and Seamen's Institute, was under the management of Colonel Darling, Commodore Lyon, Lady Piggott, Mrs. F. H. May, Major Fisher, Mr. S. T. Dunn, and Mr. A. Moreno, secretary. The result was very creditable to the organising ability and ingenuity of these ladies and gentlemen. The Buffs Band opened the proceedings by playing selections, after which the programme of the cafe chantant was taken up. At five o'clock in the temporary theatre Mrs. Worthington and Miss Ella Rowe gave a duologue entitled "Chatterbox" in the presence of a good number of patrons, most of whom returned later to see Mrs. Jarley's waxworks and living advertisements organised by Mrs. Bayard. Very effective spectacles were supplied by the following ladies and gentlemen: Mrs. Beasley, Mrs. Eves, Mrs. Freemantle, Mrs. Murray, Mrs. Penfold, Mrs. Wait, the Misses Shelton Hooper, Hut-ton Potts, Rowe, and Captain Dooner, Messrs. Anderson, Bagnall, Donne, Davis, Gould, Innes. In the interval an interesting exhibition of ju-jitsu, juggling and Japanese sword fencing, organised by the Nippon Club, was witnessed, while the fortune telling, kicking the ball, coconut shies were also providing amusement for the mass.

The cafe chantant was managed by a committee of ladies consisting of Mrs. Lyon, Mrs. Chamier and Mrs. J. R. M. Smith, who were assisted by Mesdames Murray, Wait, Tait, Grone, Penfold, Collinson-Morley, Freemantle, Grieve, Beer, Finch, Rowal, Butterworth, Pike, Waller, Eves, Misses Rowe, Lyon, Shelton Hooper, Potts, Dennys, Wilkinson, and Carter Campbell.

The table d'hote, at which dinner was supplied from 7.30 was under the supervision of Commodore Lyon, the band playing from 7.30 till 9. at which hour a popular concert, organised by the Rev. J. A. A. Baker, was commenced and items were rendered by the following:—Staff Sergeant Hutchinson R.E., Lance Corporal Bosworth, The Buffs; Mr. Scannel, The Buffs; Mr. Englefield, The Buffs, Mr. White, H.M.S. Tamar, Miss Bessie and Master Oscar Barrington, Bomb. Saunders, R.A., Sergeant Raybrand, R.E., Mr. Hogg, R.A., Mr. Boyd, Mr. Harwood, R.E., Lance Corporal Beckett R.E., and Mr. Peel (Accompanist.)

The sweet stalls were managed by a committee of ladies representative of the various consulates in Hongkong, namely—Madame Von Wiser, Mrs. Bribosia, Madame Lieria, Madame Voretzsch, Madame Tiedmann, Madame Winkler. Owing to illness Madame Voretzsch was unable to be present.

The coconut shies were in charge of Mr. E. P. Bernard and Mrs. Bailey.

The Chinese refreshment stall was presided over by Mr. Ho Kom Ting and Mr. Choa Leep Chi, who were assisted by Mrs. Ho Kom Tong, Mrs. Tze Wen Wing, Mrs. Leung Shui, Mrs. Shi Fu, Mrs. Chung Fan Ting, and the Misses Choa Leap Chi, Ho Kom Tong, Chan Yau, Chung Yu Ting, Chung Fun Chun, Lai Mo Ching, Wong Lai Sin, Wong Oi Lin, Chui Yuk Lan, Lat Yin Kwan.

The musical programme during the afternoon was sustained by the following: Mrs. Beasley, Mrs. Wait, Mrs. Badeley, Miss Hooper, Captain Murray, Captain Dooner, Captain Fenfold, Mr. Donne, Mr. Beavis, Mr. Harris, Mr. Chapman, and Mr. Carroll.

Beautiful as the gardens looked by day, their beauty was rendered more bewitching at night when the innumerable electric bulbs circumferenced the cafe chantant and gleamed from the tents in the vicinity, the charming music and the gay throng adding to the wonderful animation of the scene. A unique feature was the illuminated dragon, some fifty-five feet in length which moved its sinuous course throughout the grounds. Lit with candles, it was borne by about a dozen men. This event was arranged by Mr. Ho Kom Tong. There could be no doubt that the garden fete was a great success and the promoters deserve well for what they have done. Where all worked so willingly, it is perhaps invidious to mention names, but mention should be made of Mr. Ho Kom Tong, who not only supplied the tea and aerated waters for the stall which was under his supervision but he sold 84 tickets, realising \$750, a hundred of these being sold to the girls of the On Wai Anglo-Chinese School at half price. Moreover he gave 2000 bulton holes and 25 bouquets, the proceeds from which went to the funds.

ST. ANDREW'S SUNDAY SCHOOL, KOWLOON.

The Annual Outing for the above Sunday School was to have been held on Saturday last, and arrangements had been made to visit Seaton by launch, but owing to the unfavourable weather, the outing as arranged could not be carried out. At one o'clock as the rain had actually set in, it was decided by the committee to abandon the idea of going to Seaton and the children were assembled at the Seamen's Institute. In spite of the weather more than half of the children were present, and after various amusements, which the young folk seemed to heartily enjoy—if that may be inferred from the screams of delight that echoed through and through the rooms—tea was served at four o'clock and after "Grace" had been sung the tables were besieged, cakes etc. quickly vanishing. Subsequently, the Sunday School Prizes were presented by Mrs. Packham. In addition to the various prizes which were awarded for good conduct and attendance, there were three special prizes given for Religious Knowledge secured by Eva Packham in the girls division, Harold Lewis in the boys division, and Edward Lewis in the infants division.

At 7 o'clock each child received a small fancy bag of sweets. Then three hearty cheers were given for Mrs. Packham and other ladies who carried out the most important duty of catering.

The afternoon's enjoyment was concluded by the singing of the National Anthem. The Committee of the Sunday School wish to thank all who contributed and assisted in rendering the afternoon a success.

There is a movement in France to extend the cultivation of rice in Indo-China by investing capital and improving the native methods of cultivation. The export rice trade centres in the port of Saigon—the quantity going to Europe being about one-fourth of the total. But Saigon rice, owing to the coarse appearance of the grain, does not find favour in Europe as a food-stuff, and is used preferably for industrial purposes such as the manufacture of starch and in distilleries. On the other hand, Saigon rice finds ready buyers in Japan and in Netherlands India. The Philippines, too, draw upon Saigon. But China is the leading customer of Indo-China, and it takes on the average about one-half of the rice exported from the Colony. China cannot grow grain enough to feed its 400 millions of inhabitants, and Indo-China comes in handy to make up the difference.

SUPREME COURT.

Monday, May 3rd.

IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

(BEFORE THE FULL COURT.)

ANOTHER NEW BARRISTER.

Sir Henry Berkeley, before the business of the day was proceeded with, said he had pleasure in presenting to his Lordship the Chief Justice Mr. E. Pottar of the English bar who desired to be admitted and enrolled as a barrister in this Court. Counsel stated that he had seen Mr. Pottar's certificate of call to Gray's Inn, and as everything was in order, he moved that Mr. Pottar be approved, enrolled and admitted.

His Lordship—Mr. Pottar, you are the third barrister I have admitted to this Court during the last month. For myself I can only say that I believe there is room for all. I most sincerely trust that if the result of this somewhat vigorous attack on the Temple of Fortune is not as successful as might be expected, there may hereafter be no "moaning at the bar."

AN APPEAL CASE.

In an appeal which came before the Full Court yesterday the Hip On Exchange and Loan Co. Ltd., and the Hongkong and Manila Yuen Shing Exchange and Trading Co., Ltd. were appellants, Li Po Yung being respondent.

The appellants moved to reverse the judgment of the Chief Justice in an original action in so far as it directed, (1) That the sale by the appellants to Kwok Yik Ting of certain property, the subject of a counterclaim, be set aside, and that the consequent entries be made in the Land Office Register; and (2) That the appellant's claim, as plaintiffs in the action, be dismissed as against the respondent Li Po Yung with costs; and (3) That the appellants and Kwok Yik Ting (the defendant to the counter claim) pay to Li Po Yung his costs of the counter claim.

The defendant to the counter claim, Kwok Yik Ting, asked that the judgment, whereby it was directed that the sale of the properties from the Hip On Insurance Co., Ltd., to the appellants be set aside, be reversed so far as it declared such sale to be invalid.

Li Po Yung appealed on the ground that the release of Li Po Kam from liability under the mortgage also released him.

The Hip On and Yuen Shing Companies were represented by Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by Mr. H. L. Dennys (of Messrs. Dennys and Bowley); Kwok Yik Ting was represented by Hon. Sir Henry Berkeley, K.C., who was instructed by Mr. R. D. Atkinson (of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon); Li Po Yung was represented by Messrs. M. W. Slade and E. Potter who were instructed by Mr. F. Paget Hett (of Messrs. Brutton and Hett). Li Po Kam was represented by Mr. H. G. Calthrop, who was instructed by Mr. C. D. Wilkinson (of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist).

Mr. Pollock stated that he was not appealing from the Chief Justice's judgment as regarded Li Po Kam. This was only an appeal with regard to Li Po Yung.

Mr. Slade submitted that the appeal could not proceed in the absence of Li Po Kam. The latter and Li Po Yung were joint mortgagors of Marine Lot 57. The position which was decided in the Court below to be the ultimate position of the parties was that Li Po Kam and Li Po Yung were *vis-a-vis* of the two companies. Unless Li Po Kam was added as a party to this appeal, there would be hopeless confusion.

Mr. Pollock submitted that no necessity had been made out why Li Po Kam should be joined as a party.

The Chief Justice—How could we make an order for redemption, Li Po Kam not being a party?

Mr. Pollock—The order for redemption would be an order against Li Po Yung. If your Lordships will kindly refer to the mortgage deeds you will see that the mortgage is a joint and several covenant, and on a joint and several covenant either party can be sued.

Mr. Slade—And the other has the right to bring the other in.

The Chief Justice—The argument of Mr. Pollock and Sir Henry Berkeley all the way

through was that the final order should be for redemption. How could we allow one party to redeem without the other?

Mr. Pollock—There is no question of Li Po Kam's share of the mortgaged property being released or set free from liability.

The Chief Justice—That makes it all the more reason why he should be a party.

After the Court had considered the question further, the Chief Justice announced that they both considered that Li Po Kam should be a party to the action.

Sir Henry Berkeley said his client knew only Li Po Yung in the proceedings, but he thought it would be well that Li Po Kam should be joined.

The Chief Justice—We think that as Li Po Kam was a defendant in the first place, he must be a party now, more especially on the general ground of the question of redemption.

Mr. Slade—If he is made a party, his solicitor might be allowed to instruct some one on his behalf. He has some very active interests.

The Chief Justice—It will be sufficient if he appears this afternoon.

Mr. Pollock then proceeded to quote from the Judgment of the Chief Justice in the Court below, and submitted that this sale must be treated as a sale by the corporation. It could not be treated as a sale by the individual members of the corporation. Whether by the managers or the directors the negotiations took place, the vendors were the company. He submitted that the managers could not be treated as the mortgagees.

When the Court sat after the tiffin adjournment,

Mr. Calthrop, who was instructed by Mr. C. D. Wilkinson (of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist), said he appeared on behalf of Li Po Kam. He understood that he had been made a respondent in the appeal, and on this point he wished to point out that they were in the position of respondents to an appeal brought on a judgment delivered about September 7th last year. More than six months had elapsed since that appeal, and, so far as his client was concerned, it could not proceed unless the appellants were granted special leave by the Full Court.

The Chief Justice—That is included in the order this morning.

Mr. Calthrop—You cannot make that in my absence, as special grounds must be put forward in order to appeal against the respondents when out of time. Before an appeal proceeds against me, I am entitled to take the point that they are out of time, and that special leave cannot be granted when an appellant is out of time except under special circumstances.

The Chief Justice—I think these are very special circumstances.

Mr. Calthrop—Not joining me is not a ground for granting special leave. Before your Lordships grant special leave the grounds should be set forward. I should have been brought here and told what those grounds were.

The Chief Justice—It was rather sprung upon them.

Mr. Calthrop—They have not applied for special leave.

The Chief Justice—All that is comprised in our order, and whether they applied or not, I think we have power to make them respondents.

Mr. Calthrop—There are cases in which it has been held that a mistake by counsel does not constitute a special circumstance for appeal.

The Chief Justice—The solicitor was present this morning.

Mr. Calthrop—He had no right of audience. Counsel then quoted authorities dealing with special circumstances, and stated that in the present case the appellants were very nearly eight months before they made this application.

The Chief Justice—They didn't make the application.

Mr. Calthrop—If they don't want to join us we don't mind.

Mr. Pollock—We don't.

Mr. Slade—Then I ask that the appeal be dismissed at once.

The Chief Justice—The Court joined them. The judgment in this appeal may affect the order you formerly obtained.

Mr. Calthrop—It seems to me that whatever the result of the appeal, it will not benefit

them, for I am entitled to the equity of redemption.

The Chief Justice—The judgment you got in the action is not appealed against. I don't know whether we shall want to hear you; we said we only wanted to see you.

Mr. Calthrop remarked that he was satisfied as long as his rights were not affected.

Mr. Pollock then continued to deal with the evidence taken in the original action, and the hearing was adjourned.

Tuesday, May 4th.

When the Court resumed Mr. Pollock completed his argument, dealing with the question of costs.

Mr. Slade contended that there was no right of appeal for Mr. Pollock on the point of costs, without leave.

Mr. Pollock said they were not bringing the other side into Court simply on a question of costs.

The Chief Justice stated that the point was one which the Court wished to consider.

Sir Henry Berkeley said he represented the purchaser at the sale by the mortgagee vendors under their power of sale. It was quite obvious on this appeal, if the Court should be of opinion that the Court below made an erroneous decree, that this Court as part of its decree could give costs to the side it thought ought to have them. This was not an appeal on the question of costs, but the Court should have power to make such an order as would be just with regard to them. The Hip On and Yuen Shing Insurance Companies were mortgagees of a lot of land known as No. 57. Li Po Yung and Li Po Kam were the owners and mortgagors of that lot, which was sold under the power of sale in the mortgage. The managers of Hip On and the Yuen Shing conducted the negotiations for the sale of the property, the result of these negotiations being that the property was sold to Mr. Kwok Yik Ting for \$180,000. To acquire the property and develop it Mr. Kwok Yik Ting raised a sum of money by way of mortgage on lot No. 57 from the Hongkong Fire Insurance Co. After the sale was completed by Mr. Kwok in his own name he registered in the Land Office a declaration to the effect that he had bought the property, not for himself only, but for one Tam Sze Kong, Ng Li Hing and some others. Tam and Ng, the persons mentioned in the declaration of trust, were the persons to whom he had referred as being the managers of the mortgage companies. The sale to Mr. Kwok Yik Ting took place in October 31st, 1906. In February 1907, the Hip On and the Yuen Shing sued Li Po Yung and Li Po Kam for the balance due on the mortgage of lot 57, after giving credit for the sum of \$180,000 which had been received by the sale. In July 1907 Li Po Yung alone filed a counter claim for the balance due on the mortgage, to which he made Mr. Kwok Yik Ting one of the defendants. In that counter claim the counter claimants asked two things, the material one being that the sale to Kwok Yik Ting by the Hip On should be set aside, on the ground that the sale was in effect a sale by the Hip On to themselves as mortgagees, and that it was a gross under value. At the trial the Court found that the sale had been negotiated by the managers of the Hip On, and the sale was appreciably under value. In short, upon the facts as stated the Court came to the conclusion that the sale should be set aside as against the counter claimant Kwok Yik Ting on the grounds that the sale had been negotiated by the managers, and that fact was sufficient to entitle the owner and mortgagees to object to the bona fides of the sale. Counsel was content to abide by the judgment of the Court setting aside the sale, if the Court coupled with its decree the conditions which he submitted to the Court below, and which he desired to submit afresh to this Court. He submitted, assuming the view taken by the Chief Justice in the Court below to be right, that upon the facts before him the sale ought to be set aside if the mortgagors (owners) so desired; the only persons who could object were the mortgagors, and the sale could be set aside on their recouping the purchaser all sums properly expended by him in developing

the property after its purchase. He submitted that those two terms were conditions precedent to the decree being enforced.

The Chief Justice—How far would you push that?

Sir Henry Berkeley—To the utmost.

The Chief Justice—Supposing he had spent far more money than he ought to have done?

Sir Henry Berkeley—My proposition is that in any event he is entitled to have back the money he expended on the purchase. Then he is entitled to have an inquiry as to what monies he has laid out on the property, which has enhanced its value.

The Puisne Judge—The judgment in the Court below, I understand, practically came to fraud?

Sir Henry Berkeley—Legal fraud, in that the managers had conducted the sale. There is no fraud otherwise.

The Chief Justice—If you accept the judgment you must accept the terms.

Sir Henry Berkeley—There is a distinct pronouncement that the main fact which weighed upon the mind of the Court in coming to the conclusion that there was fraud in this case, was the fact that the mortgagors had conducted the sale. This was the only thing that could justify the Court in finding fraud.

The Chief Justice—But for that there would have been no sale.

Sir Henry Berkeley—It might have been sold by public auction.

The Chief Justice—It would have been perfectly legitimate for the plaintiff companies to have sold to a syndicate of which their managers were members. The effect of your contention is that a sale which the Court below held ought to be set aside for certain inherent defects, is now to turn the judgment aside so that you are to have all the benefit of it?

Sir Henry Berkeley said the Chief Justice had stated the proposition in effect, but in words otherwise than he would have used. The only decree that could be made in an action of this kind, having regard to the facts before the Court, was what might be called a decree for redemption, that was to say: If a man mortgaged his property to another, and in that mortgage there was a power of sale, and he over-exercised that power of sale, the man who mortgaged the property had only two remedies. He might come to the Court to ask to have the sale set aside; or he could treat the sale as subsisting, leave it unchallenged, and bring an action against the mortgagor for an abuse of the power of sale, claiming as damages what he may prove should have been obtained at the sale in excess of what was obtained. If he does not pursue that remedy at law to recover damages for the improper exercise of the power of sale, then he must go to a Court of Equity to get the sale set aside.

In this case Li Po Yung had come into a Court of Equity. He was asking that the sale to Kwok Yik Ting be set aside, and the Court had acceded to that application. One would think that in a Court of Equity provision would be made for repayment to Kwok of the purchase money. Also Li Po Yung asked that the sale of the property be set aside. One would think, if that was going to be the decree, that provision would be made to recoup Kwok for sums of money expended on the estate in enhancing the value thereof. The decree was silent on both these points, silent because the Lord Chief Justice disagreed with Counsel. This action must either be dismissed, or the sale set aside on the terms that the monies expended by Kwok for purchase and for improvements should be repaid to him.

The Chief Justice—Supposing Li Po Yung did not want those developments. Why should you compel him to take what you choose to have done?

Sir Henry Berkeley—The sale took place on October 31st, 1906, and Li Po Yung's counter claim was not filed until July, 1907. Li Po Yung took no steps whatever to have the sale set aside until after he and his brother, Li Po Kam, had been sued by the mortgagees for the balance due, as they contended, after crediting the amount received by the sale. In the meantime Kwok had expended money upon the property. It would be opposed to the principles of equity that he should be compelled to return this improved property to Li Po Yung without being recouped one penny.

The Chief Justice—Nobody said he should not be recouped, but the question is, should he be recouped by Li Po Yung.

Sir Henry Berkeley—The proper and only form of order is that Kwok Yik Ting re-convey the property to Li Po Yung and Li Po Kam on condition that they repay the purchase money, plus any sums which the Registrar finds that Kwok has expended in enhancing the value of the property.

After quoting authorities in support of his arguments, Sir Henry Berkeley concluded by asking the Court to fix an early date for the payment of this money to Kwok Yik Ting. It was quite intolerable that a person should be kept in suspense where such large sums of money were involved. It was before the Court in evidence that the operations on this building transaction were very large. Whatever way the decree went, he asked that it be made speedily. Already six months had elapsed, and practically six months elapsed before any steps were taken. He would ask the Court for costs on the appeal, but submitted that so far as the counter claim went each party should pay its own costs.

Mr. Slade remarked that before dealing with the arguments he would put in certain fresh evidence as to events which had happened since the trial of the action.

Sir Henry Berkeley objected. If this application was going to be made, it should have been made before the appeal was opened so that his friend and he might have had an opportunity of knowing what the evidence was and dealing with it.

The Chief Justice—You will have ample opportunity.

Sir Henry Berkeley asked his Lordship to note the objection.

Mr. Slade said the new facts to which he referred were that in October last an application was made on behalf of Li Po Yung for a receiver of the rents and profits of his property. In order to defeat that application the Hip On and Yuen Shing Companies, the appellants, went into possession as mortgagees under their mortgage given by Li Po Kam and Li Po Yung, and in consequence the Chief Justice refused the application. An affidavit filed by Mr. Bowley at the time, showed under what title the plaintiffs went into possession of the property. They went into possession and Kwok Yik Ting went out, because up to that time Kwok was in possession under the assignment from the plaintiffs to him.

The Chief Justice—On this affidavit I refused a receiving order?

Mr. Slade—Yes, and when the mortgagees took their legal rights there was nothing else to do. In the decree of the Court below there is no order directing Kwok Yik Ting to vacate the land. He submitted that the act of the plaintiffs in going into possession, and turning Kwok Yik Ting out in pursuance of, not an order of the Court, but their own volition, constituted an absolute estoppel to both of them from contesting the validity of the judgment in the Court below. Having voluntarily altered their positions, they must be taken to have accepted the title which was declared in the Court below.

The case stands part heard.

Wednesday, May 5th.

Mr. Slade continued his argument. He stated that in order that their Lordships might fully appreciate the position created by the taking possession of this estate by the Hip On and Yuen Shing after the decision in the Court below, it would be desirable to recapitulate shortly the facts and the legal position of the parties before and after the judgment. Before the transaction which purported to pass the property to Kwok Yik Ting, the position was that Li Po Kam and Li Po Yung were mortgagors to the Hip On and Yuen Shing; that was to say, the Hip On and Yuen Shing had the legal estate, and Li Po Kam and Li Po Yung had the equity of redemption. Just before the transaction which was questioned in this action the Hip On and Yuen Shing, who had been only second mortgagees became first mortgagees by taking the assignment of the first mortgage for \$60,000 from the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank; so that by being second mortgagees and taking

the transfer of the first mortgage they became first mortgagees for the whole of the two advances which amounted to \$210,000. At that time they had all the ordinary rights of mortgagees. They could go into possession; they could bring an action for foreclosure; or they could sell under the powers contained in the mortgages. They purported to sell under the power in the mortgage, but if that sale had been a good one it would have extinguished the mortgagors' equity of redemption, divested the two insurance companies of their legal estate, and passed over the whole of the estate, free from encumbrances, from Kwok Yik Ting. The judgment in this action amounted to a declaration that that sale must be set aside as it was a bad sale, and also that the necessary rectifications in the register be made. By that judgment alone the title to the property, as distinguished from the rights of the parties, was affected only by the notice; because there was notice to all the world that the apparent holders of the legal estate had not got a complete title. They had never sought to deny the right of the Hongkong Fire Insurance Company to receive their money under the circumstances, but as those circumstances were complicated he would not go into them at present. The judgment in the Court below being merely a declaratory judgment, and not going on to make the consequential orders which would, when carried out, change the title, the position of the parties so far as the actual title to the land was concerned was not immediately affected. That was to say that Kwok Yik Ting was entitled to remain in possession, and the mortgage to the Hip On and Yuen Shing had not been in fact revived. As a preliminary to applying for the consequential order to put the judgment of the Court below into actual effect, an application for a receiver was made in order that the rents and profits of this estate should be in neutral hands to be handed over by the receiver eventually to whomsoever was entitled to them. In order to defeat that application Kwok Yik Ting voluntarily went out of possession, and allowed the Hip On and Yuen Shing Companies to go into possession as mortgagees. The position was perfectly clearly defined in Mr. Bowley's affidavit of October 26th. There was no order on Kwok compelling him to vacate possession; he went out voluntarily. He submitted that whatever the true state of the title to this property was, that as between Li Po Yung, Kwok Yik Ting and the Hip On and Yuen Shing Companies, the Yuen Shing was in possession of the legal estate and in actual physical possession of the property. Kwok Yik Ting had no interest in the property, and Li Po Yung was mortgagor out of possession. The title as between those three had created an estoppel.

The Chief Justice—The form of the order was expressly reserved by the judgment. It was to be made subject to special application hereafter.

Mr. Slade said that was so, and he could submit a series of authorities which would show that title by estoppel was as effectual as an actual conveyance.

Mr. Pollock—I don't know whether it is correct to say that there was liberty to apply in these matters in the judgment.

The Chief Justice—I said—what the form of the order will be, must be argued.

Mr. Pollock—But your Lordship had already directed the necessary rectification.

The Chief Justice—I don't know that that would be sufficient for the rectification to be made.

Mr. Pollock—Oh, yes. On that Kwok's name could be struck out.

The Chief Justice—It so happens that at the time this judgment was given I had been looking into the question of registration of titles, and I should never have made that order if I thought the title was affected. The sale would not be set aside until the order was drawn up.

Mr. Pollock—The order takes effect from the date it is made.

Mr. Slade—There must be a formal decree drawn up and passed. Then that formal decree is shown to the Land Officer, who makes the corrections in the register ordered by the decree. As a matter of fact, in this case the rectification in the register was not effected until November 19th. The decree was finally

approved on November 16th by Messrs Deacon, Look and Deacon on behalf of Kwok Yik Ting.

Mr. Slade submitted that it would be wrong for the Court of Appeal to differ from the conclusions of the learned judge who heard the case where his conclusion largely depended on the demeanour of the witnesses, heard before him. Taking the judgment on the facts, and the points he had put before the Court on the facts, he submitted the conclusion was irresistible, that there was nothing more or less than a conspiracy between the manager of these two companies and Kwok Yik Ting to defraud on the one hand Li Po Yung, and on the other hand the two companies, assuming he had established that proposition, he submitted that in point of law Kwok, or rather the syndicate, who were all tarred with the same brush, were not entitled to any sums that they had expended upon the property that they had wrongfully acquired from the two companies. The position taken up by the learned counsel who appeared for Kwok Yik Ting was ingenious. His argument was "you should get a reconveyance from them, and that you were not entitled to have it unless you paid Kwok what he had expended on the property." In the circumstances of this case Li Po Yung and Po Kam did not want any conveyance from him at all. He had to deal with the companies he had defrauded of their properties. It was inconceivable that the two defaulting managers, who had got this property, could ask to be paid anything for what they had done with the property. He was informed, to his great surprise, that in spite of their Lordships' order, the appellants had declined to join Li Po Kam as a party.

Mr. Pollock—I am prepared to deal with that point.

Mr. Slade—So that as far as this case is concerned they are going on with Li Po Yung alone.

Mr. Pollock—A letter has been written to Li Po Kam's solicitors fully explaining the situation.

Mr. Calthrop—The appellants refused to join us. We cannot be made parties without notice being served on us. They say they won't make us respondents.

Mr. Pollock—Certainly not. We don't claim any relief against you. Your Lordships never made an order with regard to any notice of motion being served on Li Po Kam. We understood you came to the conclusion that he should be present.

The Chief Justice—We said he ought to be a party.

Mr. Pollock—I cannot be made to claim relief against him when I don't claim it. With reference to his being added as a party, it is a matter for the Registrar to put him on the record.

The Chief Justice—I thought we quite understood that nobody acquiesced in the order we made.

Mr. Pollock—All I can do is to send to Li Po Kam the notice of motion which has been served on Li Po Yung. We may be damaging our case enormously by not claiming relief against him, but we take the responsibility.

The Chief Justice—We held, as far as I can remember, that Li Po Kam should be a respondent. The Registrar has taken it down, "Decided that the appellants should make Li Po Kam a party. Question of costs reserved." We still think that he ought to be a party, but whether there is any question of right involved can be considered hereafter.

After further argument the case was again adjourned.

Thursday, May 6th.

Mr. Pollock stated that since the previous adjournment of the Court he had had an opportunity of looking up cases cited, and did not propose to press his objection as to the appeal being out of time. He also thought it would be convenient if Li Po Yung's cross notice of motion was taken separately after the other notices of motion had been disposed of. It might result in a saving of costs.

Mr. Slade had no objection, and the Court concurred.

Mr. Calthrop thought it was time he arose to appear on behalf of his client, and to explain what seemed to him an important position in the matter. He understood that he had been

joined as a party by order of the Court, and their Lordships knew that both appellants objected to his being made a party. In his judgment the Chief Justice said that the mortgage as between Li Po Kam and the plaintiff was still subsisting, and Counsel's client was entitled under that judgment to that decision. If the sale was a good one, he presumed it would have to be held good both as regarded Li Po Yung and Li Po Kam. Then his client's rights under the mortgage were gone. The appellants asked that the sale should be held good, and that the decision of the Chief Justice on that point should be reversed. That sale could not be held good without affecting Li Po Kam's position under the judgment. What the appellants were in fact asking was that the sale should be held good as affecting Li Po Yung, but they were content that it should be held bad as far as Li Po Kam went. That was an extraordinary position; an absolutely impossible position; therefore he was an interested party, and a very interested party under the judgment.

The Chief Justice—I am glad you see it now.

Mr. Calthrop—I saw it all along, but I was quite content to sit here and hear what they had to say. Proceeding, Counsel said that as regarded both appellants, who entered notices of motion asking that the sale should be held good, he was a necessary party. The appellants then went on to say that assuming the Court did not set the sale aside, still there should be an order against Li Po Yung, one of the mortgagors, compelling him to redeem. Now, they were in fact asking the Court to make an order affecting the equity of redemption, but at the same time they only brought in one of the mortgagors, Li Po Yung, and took no notice whatever of the other mortgagor. On that it was clear that no order could be made as to redemption unless all the necessary parties were before the Court, and no person could be said to be more necessary, he thought, than a mortgagor. When the speaker came into the case on Monday afternoon he pointed out to their Lordships that the time had expired within which the appellants were entitled to take proceedings by way of appeal as against Li Po Kam. He might be made a party, but the order was peremptory; their Lordships could not hear an appeal after six months had expired, except on special grounds. It had been held time after time by Courts in England that a mistake in law was no ground for extending time for appeal. Here, if he was right, and if Li Po Kam ought to have been made a party, it was the appellants who ought to have made him a respondent. They had made a mistake as to their legal position, and that was no ground for granting an extension of time. Therefore, as far as Li Po Kam was concerned, their Lordships must dismiss the appeal, even if the result was that they had to dismiss it as far as the other respondent was concerned. There had been no application for special leave, and the appellants still continued to say that Li Po Kam ought not to be a party, and refused to make him one.

The Puisne Judge—Your position is that as a mortgagor you get the benefit of the decision without being a party?

Mr. Calthrop—Yes.

Mr. Pollock thought there was a plain and simple answer to Mr. Calthrop's ingenious argument, and that was that the documents given by the plaintiff companies to Li Po Kam only operated as his Lordship held in the Court below, and from which Li Po Kam was not in any way appealing, as the discharge of Li Po Kam on the personal covenant in his mortgage. The Chief Justice held with regard to the subject of the property that no document which was given by the plaintiff companies, or either of them, to Li Po Kam, affected the fact that those properties had been pledged as security. Therefore the position was that Li Po Kam's half share must be applied, and still remained applicable, notwithstanding any documents given by the plaintiffs to Li Po Kam to pay off whatever charges ought to be paid. It was absolutely immaterial to Li Po Kam whether the property was sold at an undervalue or not, because whatever deficiency there might be, the plaintiffs could not go against him. That was the ruling of the Chief Justice, against which nobody had brought an appeal. Regard-

ing the sale at an alleged undervalue, there was only one person interested, and that was Li Po Yung.

Mr. Slade—There may be a large surplus, then Li Po Kam is directly affected.

The Chief Justice—The point which Mr. Calthrop has made is that there may be other points outside the question of the sale which may affect them.

Mr. Pollock—My friend cannot roam over a large field not covered by our notice of appeal. Authorities I have quoted clearly lay down that one tenant in common can redeem.

After hearing further argument the hearing of the appeal was postponed *sine die*.

SERIOUS CHARGE AGAINST A SOLDIER.

At the Magistracy on May 3rd Private Herbert Vaughan, R.M.L.I., H.M.S. *Tamar*, was charged with having stolen \$94 the money of M. A. Razack. The case for the prosecution was that the complainant went to the Belle Vue Hotel about 7 o'clock on Sunday night and was introduced by the proprietor to a man with whom he had a game of billiards. When this was completed defendant came up and asked complainant if he would mind playing with him. Complainant being agreeable, they had a game, and when it was completed Razack went up to where his jacket was hanging on a rack and put his hand in his pocket. To his surprise he found that his purse, which had contained \$94, was gone. He informed the proprietor who sent for Police Sergt. Pitt, and he, on arrival asked Razack if he suspected anybody. Complainant replied that the only persons he suspected were two gunners of the R. G. A. who had been walking round the table. Sergt. Pitt searched them without finding the money, and then proceeded to look through the hotel, during which the two soldiers and the defendant left the hotel. Sergt. Pitt and Mr. Razack went to Bay View Police Station in order to make a report, and met the defendant and the two soldiers on the way. His suspicions aroused, Sergt. Pitt asked them to come into the Station, where the soldiers were again searched without result. During this proceeding defendant said he could find the purse which he believed had been taken by the two civilians who were in the hotel at the time. He added that he had some 80 in his pocket. Mr. Razack then asked the Sergeant to take the defendant into custody. The sergeant searched him and found \$65 in Hongkong notes, one Chinese five-dollar note, two Hongkong dollars and \$1.25 in silver. Sergt. Pitt then charged the defendant with the theft and the latter made a statement to the effect that he had received his last month's money amounting to \$72 that morning.

Defendant's statement as to receiving the money was confirmed by the production of the pay sheet from the *Tamar*.

His Worship said there was nothing against him except the remark as to finding the purse, which he thought was rather foolish. He was discharged.

HIGHWAY ROBBERY.

A highway robbery in Hongkong was reported to the police on May 5th. The particulars supplied are to the effect that a cattle dealer from Kennedy town and his two foks were proceeding citywards at four o'clock yesterday morning, and when near the Kwong Tung Hotel they were stopped by three men who represented themselves to be excise officers and demanded that the cattle dealer and his foks should allow themselves to be searched for opium. They complied and the cattle dealer and his companions squatted on the ground. The first named opened his bundle whereupon the robbers struck the men over the heads with iron bars, and made off with the \$700 which was in the cattle dealer's bundle.

In connection with the highway robbery committed at West Point the other morning in which three men set upon a cattle dealer and his foks and stole \$700, two men have been arrested and charged with complicity in the offence. They were remanded.

COMPANY MEETINGS.

NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA, LD.

The eighteenth ordinary annual meeting of National Bank of China, Ltd., was held at the Bank's premises on May 1st. Mr. J. Scott Harston presided, other shareholders present being Messrs. P. L. ureiro (Acting Manager), E. Haskell, P. C. Potts, E. Raymond, E. Ellis, P. Davidson, J. Gourgey, Sin Tak Fan, Chan Ki Pan and Yung Pak Leung.

Mr. P. LOUREIRO, Acting Manager, read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said:—Gentlemen,—The directors have now the pleasure to submit to you the accounts and balance sheet for year ending 31st December, 1908. The gross profits, including \$10,223.09 brought forward from last year, are \$265,389.36, which, after deducting all charges, leave a net profit of \$180,552.57, which the directors propose to deal with as follows:—Place to reserve fund \$150,000 and carry forward balance of \$30,552.57 to next account. Mr. Horace Mocatta retires in rotation from the London Committee and Mr. J. Scott Harston from the Hongkong Board; but, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election. During the year Mr. E. S. Kadoorie and Mr. Ellis Kadoorie were elected as Directors and this now requires your confirmation. Mr. G. C. Moxon resigned his seat on the board during his temporary absence from the Colony and does not now seek re-election. The accounts at the Head Office have been audited by Mr. A. R. Lowe, Chartered Accountant and Mr. E. A. M. Williams, A.S.A., of the firm of Messrs Lowe, Bingham and Matthews. Messrs Deloitte, Plender, Griffiths and Co., Chartered Accountants, audited the London accounts.

There being no questions the CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. Potts seconded and the motion was carried.

On the motion of Mr. HASKELL, seconded by Mr. ELLIS, Messrs H. Mocatta and J. Scott Harston were re-elected to the London Committee and the Hongkong Board respectively.

The appointment of Messrs. E. S. and Ellis Kadoorie to the Board of Directors was confirmed on the motion of Mr. HASKELL seconded by Mr. ELLIS.

Messrs. A. R. Lowe and E. A. M. Williams were re-elected local auditors, and Messrs. Deloitte, Plender, Griffiths and Co., London auditors, on the motion of Mr. Potts seconded by Mr. DAVIDSON.

The CHAIRMAN—That finishes the business, gentlemen. Thank you for your attendance.

UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LD.

An extraordinary general meeting of shareholders in the Union Society of Canton, Ltd., was held at the Society's Head Office, No. 2, Queen's Buildings, on May 7. Mr. E. Ormiston presided, and were also present Messrs. W. Helms, A. Forbes, E. G. Barrett (directors), C. Montague Ede (secretary), A. B. Rouse, D. B. Murray, D. D. Gazdar, H. A. Siebs, J. Bandow, F. Smyth and Ho Fook.

The meeting was called to confirm the following resolution:—

"That the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Society be respectively extended, altered and amended so as to read as shewn in the print signed for the purpose of identification by the Chairman of this Meeting and that such extended, altered and amended Memorandum and Articles of Association be henceforth adopted as the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Society to the exclusion of those heretofore prevailing."

On the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. BANDOW, the resolution was unanimously passed.

This terminated the meeting.

THE CHINA TRADERS' INSURANCE CO., LD.

Mr. E. Ormiston presided over an extraordinary general meeting of the China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd., held at the head Office of the Company, No. 2, Queen's Buildings, on May

7th. Other shareholders present were Messrs. C. S. Gubbay, E. G. Barrett, F. W. Bandow, A. Forbes, W. Helms, H. A. Siebs (directors), C. Montague Ede (secretary), A. B. Rouse, H. J. M. Carvalho, B. M. C. Cunha, A. E. Alves, V. L. Remedios, J. F. A. Barros, J. A. Carvalho and J. Gardiner.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. ROUSE, the following resolution was confirmed:—

"That the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company be respectively extended, altered and amended so as to read as shewn in the print signed for the purpose of identification by the Chairman of this Meeting and that such extended, altered and amended Memorandum and Articles of Association be henceforth adopted as the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company to the exclusion of those heretofore prevailing."

This was all the business.

A PECULIAR STORY.

A report was made at the Police Station on Thursday by a man living on the first floor of a house in Bridges Street, and as the story he told was rather peculiar it is worth giving. He stated that a coolie came to his house the previous day and dumped on the floor a bag of rice. He could not be persuaded that he had brought it to the wrong house, but matters became more interesting when other coolies arrived and likewise deposited bags of rice before they could be persuaded that they also had brought them to the wrong house. This aroused the suspicions of the tenant who thought the men had come to make preliminary observations prior to carrying out a robbery of the premises. The police became active in the search for the coolies who had brought the rice, but the sequel was not discovered until Thursday night. Then, while the police were looking for the coolies, some men entered the top floor and took away two women, conducted them to the steamer wharf, and put them on board a steamer. Before the police got down to the steamer the two women jumped overboard and one was drowned. The other was rescued by her captor. It is thought that the women were being forcibly taken back to their husbands in the country. Beyond that explanation the action of the men seems very peculiar.

MR. KINDER'S RESIGNATION.

The resignation of Mr. C. W. Kinder, C.M.G., having been attributed in several papers to a disagreement with the Board of Communications a correspondent sends to *Chinese Public Opinion* Mr. Kinder's letter of resignation as a proof that the reports in question are absolutely without foundation. The letter is as follows:—

To the Director General of Railways,

SIR,—I regret that the time has come when I must ask you to accept my resignation as Engineer-in-Chief and General Manager of the I.R.N.C. Appointed in September of 1878 by their Excellencies Li Hung Chang and Tong King Sing as Resident Engineer to construct the railway from Tongshan to Lutai and to open the Mines of Tongshan, I have now completed 30 years of uninterrupted service in North China.

During this period I have only been able to be absent on leave for fifteen months, only four of which were spent with my people in England, in my own country, and now I have reached the age of 56 years I desire to return to England and live the rest of my life among my own kith and kin.

In tendering Your Excellency my resignation I desire to record my appreciation of much personal kindness and consideration shown me during my long period of service.

I desire my resignation shall take effect from the 1st of May 1909.

Again expressing my regret that the time has come when I must sever my connection with North China. I remain, Your Excellency's obedient Servant,

(Signed) C. W. KINDER,
Engineer-in-Chief and
General Manager

October 12th, 1908.

STANDARD OIL STEAMER
"ASHTABULA."

INSPECTED BY CHINESE SHIPPERS.

At the invitation of the Standard Oil Company of New York, a number of Chinese merchants and shippers on May 6 paid a visit of inspection to the British steamer *Ashtabula*, a commodious oil ship trading between San Francisco and the East. The object of the visit was to acquaint the Chinese with the excellent cargo accommodation which this ship possesses, and to disabuse their minds of the idea that cargo carried on an oil ship would be affected in any way from the fumes of the oil. After an exhaustive inspection, and explanations of the methods adopted for the preservation of perishable cargo, which appeared to be appreciated by the visitors, the Standard Oil Company may expect to receive a fair share of the carrying trade to the Pacific Slope.

The *Ashtabula* has a cargo capacity of 13,500 tons. After the discharge of her oil cargo for the East the large tanks are first steamed out, then washed with caustic soda, and afterwards coated with limewash. Then woodwork, similar to that used in ordinary cargo steamers, is placed at the bottom of the tanks. The tanks are ventilated from the fan room by a 15 foot fan turning 1,500 revolutions to the minute. In addition to the tank accommodation there is a large space on each side of the ship on the 'tween deck, which runs the length of the vessel. This is divided into compartments for the reception of sensitive cargo, these compartments being ventilated in the manner previously stated. Five hundred tons of cargo can be stowed on each side of the deck, the space available being divided into ten compartments five on each side.

Although it is a new departure on the part of the Standard Oil Company to bid for Chinese cargo, their fleet running to India have been engaged in the carrying trade for a number of years with much success, the vessels turning out better cargo than the average tramp steamer, owing to the fine system of ventilation.

It is worthy of mention that the *Ashtabula* was chartered by the Russian Government at the time of the Russo-Japan war, and that she accompanied the Baltic Fleet as far as Saigon as watership. Subsequently she was purchased by the Standard Oil Company from the builders, and since she has been taken over some £1,500 have been expended on alterations and improvements. She has now excellent accommodation for a limited number of passengers, but when alterations which are in progress are completed, she will be able to carry twenty-eight. Her speed averages eleven knots. She burns oil on her trip from America, but uses coal on the return voyage.

The visitors yesterday were entertained by Captain Harding and his wife, whose hospitality was greatly appreciated, and whose kind invitation to visit them again on their return, will in many instances certainly not be overlooked.

MISTAKEN IDENTITY.

An interesting case was heard at the Magistracy on May 7 before Mr. Kemp when a school boy from Wanchai School was charged with throwing stones at an Indian policeman. It appeared that the schoolboys had been playing football on the street and the policeman attempted to capture their ball as he had done on a previous occasion, and one of the boys, resenting his interference, threw a stone at him. The policeman was sure that the defendant was the boy who threw the stone, and he called a Naval Yard policeman who was equally certain that it was the culprit who was charged. However, Mr. Yung Hee, the headmaster of the school, produced a schoolboy who confessed to having thrown the stone, and an amah, who had witnessed the affair, also testified that the real culprit was the boy who had confessed. His Worship discharged the defendant and told the other that as he had confessed he would not order him to be birched, a penalty which he contemplated for such offences.

THE ARRESTED PROSPERITY OF HONGKONG.

BY A. S. D. COUSLAND, SECRETARY TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE CHINA ASSOCIATION, HONGKONG.

We find in the Annual Report issued by the London Committee of the China Association the following interesting memorandum drawn up by Mr. Cousland, the Secretary of the Hongkong Branch of the Association, giving his views upon the causes of that marked depression which has existed in this Colony for some time past. It was forwarded to the London Committee on April 4th, 1908. Mr. Cousland writes:—

In reviewing the trade of the Colony of Hongkong from year to year, it is rather disappointing to find that for the past two or three years the general note has been one of depression. This feeling, which originally was confined to only a few classes of trade carried on in the Colony, seems to have spread until at present complaints are almost universal, and it is acknowledged by all that the state of affairs is not what it should be.

Apart from the individual experiences of the merchants, there are other indications of lessened activity in trade within the Colony. The district in which most of the merchant trade is carried on, that including Bonham Strand, Winglok Street, and Jervois Street, showed at last census a decrease in population of about 16 per cent from the previous one. A few years ago it was well nigh impossible to obtain a shop or warehouse for immediate entry in those streets, each vacancy being keenly competed for. Now there are said to be ten houses vacant in Bonham Strand and Winglok Street, and no doubt a comparison of the rents ruling then and now would confirm the fact that there is a decreased demand for business premises.

Granted then that the depression is real, and that whilst it has continued for some time, there seems little immediate prospect of a change, it is natural to look for some reason or reasons to account for it, with a view to finding out whether or not anything may be done in the way of remedy.

Several local causes have been suggested. There is no doubt but that large sums were lost during the Russo-Japanese war in attempts at running the blockade and through speculation in foodstuffs. There was also a period of wild speculation in yarn, which ended in the practical extinction of almost all the old dealers. These and other speculations have certainly been responsible for a large wastage in capital. But at present there is no complaint from the Chinese that money is dear. Capital seems to be freely available for all legitimate trading, although it may be scarcer for any speculative ventures. It is therefore hardly correct to ascribe to the above causes any great diminution in the volume of the trade carried on in Hongkong.

Sanitary and other restrictions affecting the Chinese living in the Colony, and those placed on Hongkong consequent upon the existence of plague, have also been mentioned in this connection. The former, which if they attained their object would lessen the bad effects of the latter, can, however, have really little effect on actual trade. They may affect the city as a residential quarter, they might even have a depressing effect on local industries, although this hardly seems to have been the case, but when it comes to actual merchant business it seems improbable that regulations as at present existing, or any others on similar lines, could stifle the commerce carried on by the Chinese. Any restrictions imposed for the sake of the general health of the community can be as nothing compared to the many advantages the Chinese merchants enjoy here under British rule. The quarantine to which vessels from Hongkong are subjected may, at times, be detrimental to certain classes of trade, but it is only for part of the year, and business has been very much better at times when plague was more evident than it has been of recent years.

Local causes do not, however, explain a lack of demand from consuming centres, and it is of this that the Chinese Yarn, Piece Goods, and Flour Merchants bitterly complain.

One reason has thus been suggested to account for the present depression, and in order to see how far it may be a true one, it is necessary to

consider what position Hongkong occupies as a trading centre. To begin with, it is not a consuming district. The population is comparatively small, and the percentage of the imports used here is really insignificant. The Colony has grown to its present size and occupies the position it does because it was found to be the most convenient and suitable port for landing, storing, and distributing goods intended for South China, Formosa, Manila, and even some other places further afield. In fact, to some shippers in Europe and America, Hongkong became synonymous with China, and transshipment and distribution were made from here to Singapore and the Straits in the South, and all ports up to Vladivostok in the North. Its splendid harbour, the freedom from all Customs' restrictions, and the security afforded by naval and military protection, these and other advantages combined to establish in Hongkong a merchant trade of great magnitude. But it would seem as if these were not so highly esteemed now as heretofore. It is said that business which would formerly have passed through Hongkong as a matter of course is now done direct with the consuming centres, and on investigation there seems to be some measure of truth in this assertion.

The Returns of Trade and Trade Report, 1906, Part I. Abstract of Statistics (Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs), give the value of the trade between Hongkong and China for eight years. The Colony's share in the trade of China, as a whole is a decreasing one, and although the actual value of the imports from Hongkong has increased 20 per cent. during that period, it has been stationary for four years, and that of itself is an unhealthy sign. But so far as China is concerned these statistics issued by the Customs are of little value when the object is to find out whether actual trade is being carried on here or not. Ocean steamers do not as yet call at the Treaty ports, and as cargo for these places is still transhipped at Hongkong, the entries in the returns show it as imported from this Colony. It is only by looking into each class of business individually that we can see what is really taking place.

The branches of trade which have already left Hongkong are many, and in most cases it is difficult to see how they could have been retained. The Japanese have taken the Newchwang trade which used to be in Hongkong hands, and have also captured that carried on between Japan and Singapore and the Dutch Indies, with a detrimental effect on the Sugar trade with Java. Rice now goes direct to Peru from Siam instead of through Hongkong. Kerosine Oil is imported to the Treaty ports in bulk, instead of being distributed here. Flour, which used to be imported here and distributed far north and south, is shipped direct to Shanghai, Chefoo, Tientsin, and Vladivostok; and Singapore now draws direct on Australia for the requirements of the Straits. There are other classes of business hardly so important which have also been diverted for good.

With regard to those trades which still remain with us, some enquiry is necessary as to what extent they are likely to follow the above, or in how far the depression now existing may be caused by their having already done so to a smaller or greater extent.

Take the case of Yarn. Hitherto all Yarn intended for South China has been purchased by Hongkong dealers and re-sold to Haiphong, Canton, Swatow, and other ports. But the Japanese have started selling direct to these places, and as their steamers are able to go direct to these ports, Hongkong also loses the transshipping business. It is also reported that the Hongkong Mill is going past the dealers in Hongkong, and selling direct in the coast ports, and there are instances of sales by European importers to the Agents of Canton and Haiphong firms without the usual intervention of a Hongkong yarn merchant.

As regards Piece Goods, the dealers in Hongkong are complaining that much of their former business has been taken away by direct importations. The Japanese are said to be most prominent in this direction, their competition being keenest in Swatow and Amoy. Their goods, principally of a low class, besides cutting into the trade of similar British and Indian productions, are also taking the place

of cloths formerly manufactured from Bombay yarn, so that our trade is affected in more than one way. But apart from this Japanese competition there is also an effort being made by certain Hongkong houses to deal direct with Canton, Swatow, Amoy and Foochow. This is in addition to business done direct by firms already established in these ports. The travellers from Manchester and Bradford, who have been coming to China in such numbers of recent years, caused some trouble in the north by selling to Tientsin dealers direct certain goods for which they had already received orders in Shanghai, the Chinese in the latter port expecting to sell their purchases to Tientsin. In consequence double quantities were ordered and the market suffered severely. Something similar is evidently going to happen here, through the pushfulness of either travellers or salesmen. There is at least one recorded instance of a traveller booking orders through the Canton branch of a European firm here, to the annoyance it is said of the Hongkong office. It is certainly a fact that some firms here send their salesmen up regularly to Canton for orders, to the certain loss of such business to the Chinese firms in the colony. Others have acted in a similar way at the Coast ports.

In the case of Flour, as mentioned previously, this Colony used to be the distributing centre for a large district, and when the trade of the most out-lying ports left Hongkong it was naturally hoped that Canton, Swatow, and other places near at hand, would certainly be left undisturbed. Large quantities, however, have within the last year been sold direct to Canton dealers, and several lots to those of Swatow. One big Swatow dealer in flour has now a representative here who buys direct from European houses. It is also reported that the Japanese have done a fair business direct.

In metals the tendency is not nearly so well marked. Certain Canton men have however visited Hongkong and placed orders directly with Europeans, such business being formerly transacted through Chinese merchants here.

As regards sundries, such as singlets, socks, etc., it is now almost essential for European houses which wish to do a good business in these goods, to deal direct with Canton dealers. Representatives of the various firms in this trade visit that city regularly for the purpose of getting orders, which are becoming larger and more varied as time goes on.

The above are some of the principal branches of merchant business carried on between Hongkong and China; it may be that others would show a similar tendency.

With regard to Manila, which place Hongkong formerly supplied with goods of all classes, a falling off is particularly noticeable. This may be due to some extent to the fact that the American mail steamers run a service now calling at that port, giving direct shipment. It may also be due to American goods taking the place of British and Continental, but many such goods formerly bought through the Chinese in Hongkong are now shipped direct from Europe.

Formosa is another market which has been, to a great extent, lost to us, the Japanese finding a good outlet there for many of their products.

Thus it would seem probable that the depression existing is in some measure due to direct purchases by the consuming districts. That Hongkong population has grown in districts outside those occupied by merchants is most likely due to the development of manufactures, and this is a most hopeful sign in the present position of the Colony. The thin end of the wedge has, however, been inserted into much of our merchant trade, and even although Hongkong may prosper in other ways, there is no reason why steps should not be taken to retain at least what is left. We still have practically all the transshipping of the cargo, we have the storing of a fair proportion of it. What has been lost is the Chinese, and, sometimes, the European merchants' profit. We have also the prospect that the larger this direct business grows, the greater the chance that it will pay shipping companies to run steamers calling at these ports, with the loss to the Colony of the transshipping. The firms which have been pushing this direct business have been principally Germans and Japanese people with no interest in the future of the Colony. But their action forces others to follow suit, and whilst the merchants here may

in the end suffer little, as they will simply establish themselves where the business is to be had, the Colony will feel the effect of losing its former position as the distributing centre for South China, Formosa, and the Philippine Islands.

CHINA'S FINANCES.

THE VIEWS OF THE CHINA ASSOCIATION.

The following extracts are from the report of the London Committee of the China Association:—

It is on the rock of finance that China seems to be aimlessly drifting, threatening grave danger to all schemes for her advancement and reform. It has been aptly said of China that although she has finances she has no finance; and, apart from her domestic financial difficulties, the truth of the aphorism has illustration in her seeming indifference towards her foreign indebtedness. China's foreign debt, contracted almost entirely in the last thirteen years, now amounts to some £125,000,000, for the service of which an annual sum of between seven and eight millions sterling is required. Towards this service it is estimated that about £1,000,000 is provided by returns from productive work, leaving, say, £6,500,000, or, at present exchange, about Hai-kwan Taels 50,000,000, to be provided from other sources. The method of meeting this annual obligation is as delightfully simple, as it is startlingly suggestive of threatened danger. There is, first, the hypothecation of the revenues of the Imperial Maritime Customs, officially estimated for last year (less cost of collection) at Tls. 29,000,000, the balance of Tls. 21,000,000, being secured upon the provincial revenues. The annual provincial remittances to the Capital are estimated, under normal conditions, at about Tls. 70,000,000, an amount now apparently reduced to (say) Tls. 50,000,000 by the above-mentioned hypothecation of provincial revenues for foreign loan purposes. It would appear, then, that the revenue of the Central Government is reduced to this Tls. 50,000,000, plus such local sources of revenue as Peking may possess. It is impossible to believe that the expenses of the Metropolitan Government can be met by any such sum, and the conclusion is unavoidable that the deficit is made up *more Sinico*, in other ways. It may be doubted, for instance, whether the amount of the provincial revenues hypothecated for foreign loan purposes is credited to the provincial exchequers in respect of their remittances to Peking; that, in fact, the full quota is still exacted from them, leaving them to make good their loss by such methods as their necessities and ingenuity may enable them to devise; and, indeed, there is good ground for such suggestion in the experience of the past few years, during which have been witnessed new forms of "raising the wind," in the shape of increased burden on trade public lotteries, sales of office, issues of debased coinage and of unsecured paper money. Such expedients, if persisted in, can but end in disaster, and it is most earnestly to be hoped that China will take in hand the reform of her financial chaos, and that without delay.

CURRENCY.

The obligation of currency reform—accepted by the Chinese Government in the second article of the Shanghai Treaty of 1902—has not only remained unfulfilled during the six intervening years, but the necessity for such reform has been emphasised by the bewildering conditions of currency which have since been created. By the Treaty of 1902, China undertook to "provide for uniform national coinage which shall be legal tender in payment of all duties, taxes and other obligations throughout the Empire;" but so far from the creation of such "uniform national coinage," there has been witnessed during the past two or three years the coinage by the provincial mints of enormous quantities of debased copper coins, and on such coinage becoming unprofitable, the expedient has been resorted to by the provincial authorities, and by private native banks, of issues of vast amounts of paper money, seemingly altogether uncontrolled by the central authorities, and certainly insufficiently secured, with the inevitable result of the creation of a currency chaos infinitely more confounded than that which already existed.

It is urged, with evident reason that the present unsatisfactory state of trade in China is in large measure due to this juggling with the currency, and indeed, no further evidence is needed in proof of this contention than is contained in the fact that the copper-money—the money of the people—has become depreciated in terms of silver, by 50 per cent. and even more, as compared with the exchange of a few years ago.

The Currency Decree issued on October the 5th is an indication that the situation has at last stirred the Central Government to the necessity of action. The Decree opens with the statement that "A standard currency is the fundamental principle of public finance," and proceeds to the admission that "The finances of China are in confusion, and the standarding of the currency is an urgent necessity"; it is, consequently, ordained that there shall be introduced a uniform silver currency throughout the Empire, of which a coin weighing one Kuping or Treasury Tael is to be the unit. The Decree must be received with satisfaction, as indicating an intention to comply with Treaty obligations, though there will, doubtless, be differences of opinion as to the convenience of the unit coin which it is proposed to adopt. There are two points, however, which have been remarked in connection with the Decree, the first that no reference is made to the question of a ratio between copper currency and the new Tael coinage, and, secondly, no indication is given whether the new coins are to be issued solely from Mints under the direct control of the Board of Finance.

At best, however, considerable time must elapse before practical effect can be given to the Decree; and meantime, the perils threatened through the "currency juggling" of the provinces are grave and imminent. The General Committee has, in consequence, addressed His Majesty's Government, expressing the hope that through the Diplomatic Body at Peking strong representations and remonstrances be made to the Chinese Government on the subject, and has, in reply, been informed that His Majesty's Minister in Peking is fully alive to the importance of the question, and has repeatedly made representations regarding it.

Y.M.C.A. CONCERT.

The annual concert held on behalf of the library fund of the Y.M.C.A. was given on the 1st instant at the City Hall. A programme of more than average merit was submitted to an audience which might have been more numerous but which could not have been more appreciative. Apart from the small attendance the evening was a decided success. It showed our local artistes, who are ever ready to give their services for any deserving object, to great advantage and it gave the music lovers a treat such as they could enjoy.

The mixed quartette composed of Mrs. Clark, Mrs. Goldsmith, Mr. E. B. Ayris and Mr. C. E. H. Beavis were very effective in their two appearances. "On the banks of Allan Water," and "Sleep gentle lady," being most tunelessly rendered. Mr. G. P. Lammert, who was in excellent voice, sang "Kashmiri Song" (from the Garden of Kama) and "For me alone," for both of which he was encored, and appreciation was not lacking for the brilliantly executed violin solos contributed by Professor Gonzales. That accomplished soloist, Mrs. Belilos, delighted her auditors with her interpretation of Gounod's "Valse Song" and Lord Henry Somerset's "A Song of May," in both of which her rich clear voice of remarkable compass was heard with great effect. A refined humorous element was supplied by Mr. J. Cochrane, who was encored for his entertaining songs and in answer to one recall gave a burlesque recitation. The promoters of the concert are to be congratulated on having arranged such an excellent programme.

The Bank of Formosa, which has branches in Hongkong, Foochow, Swatow, Amoy, Shanghai and Singapore, now proposes, says the Tokio correspondent of the *N.C. Daily News*, to establish branches in Canton and Bangkok and to increase its capital to ten million yen from five million yen.

MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT]

May, 4th.

EXAGGERATED REPORTS OF PLAGUE.

A circular printed in Chinese has been issued inviting the public to attend a meeting at the Chinese Hospital to consider the desirability of erecting a matshed on the Chinese side of the boundary for the reception of patients suffering from plague. This alarm is quite unjustified. Plague is not epidemic in the city, and the calling of a meeting to provide special accommodation for plague patients seems to be the work of some irresponsible busy bodies.

GOVERNMENT TAKES OVER THE OPIUM MONOPOLY

At noon yesterday Senhor Joao M. Garcia, the Administrator, took possession of the Opium Farm; and the Government is now conducting the business, with expert Chinese assistance. Mr. Basto, the solicitor representing the Opium Farm, formally protested against the action of the Government.

MISCELLANEOUS.

As a result of the meeting that took place on Saturday last at the Leal Senado the telegrams of which I furnished a summary have been sent to Lisbon.

When will the postage rate be reduced from here to Hongkong and Canton?

It is rumoured that a young man named Hilario has been mutilated in Chinese territory!

Our river Gunboat (which has been overhauled in the Kowloon Dock) will soon be ready for service in our water.

The *Kermesse* for the benefit of the Italian Convent yielded over one thousand dollars.

THE DELIMITATION OF MACAO.

It is stated that Mandarin Ko, the Chinese Commissioner appointed to take part in the delimitation of Macao, will shortly come down from the North and will stay some time in Hongkong before proceeding to Macao.

An interesting report in connection with this event is that the Hague Tribunal has selected a Hollander to assist in the deliberations of the two commissioners and act as arbitrator.

ANTI-OPIUM MEASURES IN HONAN

A correspondent writing to the *Tientsin Times* from Changteho, Honan, says:—

For the first time in this region we observe an effective blow being dealt at the opium evil. Sporadic and fitful efforts at closing up opium divans have been made, but now the cultivation of the poppy is being vigorously suppressed. One informant reports that not a single plant can this year be found throughout a considerable region which was formerly being devoted more and more exclusively to opium growing.

The district magistrate says he has been making trips incognito through every part of his country and that he knows there is none being produced there this year. In another large and fertile valley, forty miles west of here, the inhabitants have been especially defiant towards official proclamations on the subject, but a deputy and a force of soldiers sufficient to overawe them have been sent in, and everywhere the poppy is being plowed up.

Imported opium is beyond the reach of the majority of smokers, and even the native product has greatly increased in price, so there is a great rush for the mission hospital and for opium refuges which magistrates are opening in different cities. One country official claims that there are two hundred patients in his refuge. A Chinese doctor is in charge, and treatment is free.

Between the 1st and the 26th April no fewer than 120 cases have been filed in the Court of First Instance at Manila against Filipinos and Chinamen for illegal possession and use of opium. Of this number 16 were Filipinos, three being women, and the remainder Chinamen.

SHIPPING NOTES.

The s.s. *Zafiro* on her last trip to Manila collided with a junk while entering the harbour, and bent three of her plates. She goes into dock here for repairs.

The British steamer *Siam*, 1,577 tons, owned by Messrs. McVeagh & Co. of London, was recently ashore at Yongampo, Korea. Fruitless efforts were made by two small Japanese steamers to get her off, but a few days later she was successfully re-floated by a tug-boat sent to her assistance by the South Manchurian Railway Co.

The P. and O. steamer *Nubia* whilst proceeding to her anchorage at Shanghai last week ran aground on the Outer Bar. As the steamer was approaching the Bar a haze suddenly fell, and lasted for about ten minutes. When it cleared away a large junk was found to be immediately ahead of the *Nubia*, and in order to avoid a collision the helm was put hard over to starboard. The altered course had the effect of running her too close in, and she took the ground. She came off all right next day with the assistance of two tugs, and left Shanghai on Saturday for Hongkong.

The reports in the latest Japan papers regarding the stranding of the British steamer *Indrani* on the 14th ult. in the Inland Sea, at a point seven miles off Tamashima, Bitchu Province, state that the steamer is badly damaged on the port side. The damage was found to be greater than was at first anticipated, for when the cargo was removed from the No. 1 hold, an extensive rent in her bottom was discovered. Her cargo consisted of about 3,000 tons of sundries and iron. One report says that the damage is estimated at over 200,000 yen. Twenty thousand is probably much nearer the mark.

The Russian steamer *Dnieper*, formerly the B. and S. steamer *Tungchow*, which was sold during the late war, has been lying in Nagasaki harbour for the past year pending the settlement of a civil action. The Nagasaki Court in March gave its decision ordering the vessel be sold by auction. The sale took place a week ago and the ship was acquired by the China Commercial Steam Navigation Company of Shanghai for 30,000 yen. 10,000 yen will be expended on her at Nagasaki for repairs when she will proceed to Shanghai and be put on the Northern run.

The *Miyasaki Maru*, the latest of the six new vessels built for the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's European service, is now in the harbour, on her maiden voyage to England. She is a sister ship of the *Kamo*, *Mishima* and *Atsuta*. She has twin screws and her dimensions are:—about 465 feet in length, 56 feet beam and depth about 36 feet. Her propelling machinery is triple expansion engines of about 7,400 horse power and she is capable of making about 16 knots speed. Like her sister-ships, she has been furnished regardless of expense. Her cargo arrangements also are of the best for rapid handling of freight, and for heavy weights she has monster cranes capable of lifting forty tons. She is commanded by Captain Bainbridge, a well-known skipper who has been long in the Company's service.

A Blue-book issued by the Board of Trade gives some interesting statistics of the world's merchant shipping during a period of very nearly 50 years. The total tonnage of sailing and steam vessels in the foreign trade entered and cleared at British ports during 1907 was 133,271,720. Of this huge aggregate, British vessels accounted for 81,308,442 tons, or 61 per cent. of the whole. The gross addition of tonnage for the United Kingdom in 1907 was 773,137 tons, which compares with 471,332 tons credited to the United States and 269,819 tons to Germany. The main interest in the return, however, lies in the comparisons furnished, covering, as they do, a lengthy period and showing the positions of the merchant shipping of our nearest rivals. The statistics, which deal with the tonnage of sailing and steam vessels in one group and steam vessels only in another, are as follows:—

	Sailing and Steam Vessels.					Steam Vessels only.				
	1860	1880	1900	1907		1860	1880	1900	1907	
British	13,914,923	41,348,984	62,710,886	81,308,442		4,186,620	30,976,037	60,302,659	80,244,853	
American	2,981,697	1,016,388	559,552	1,027,041		8,809	19,071	535,941	1,011,285	
German	2,314,255	3,173,835	6,027,208	13,355,013		389,318	1,438,467	5,471,614	13,024,664	
Norwegian	1,456,764	4,051,768	7,661,571	8,529,498		18,115	201,879	4,839,313	7,202,000	
Total foreign	10,774,369	17,387,076	35,812,857	51,963,278		780,853	6,237,915	29,996,788	48,226,017	
Proportion British to total tonnage	56.4	70.4	63.7	61.0		84.3	83.2	66.8	62.5	

The British figures for 1900 do not include the tonnage employed in the transport of troops, &c., to South Africa, the total being 1,571,969 tons. With regard to the 1907 figures it may be pointed out that the navigation returns of the United Kingdom were not compiled on quite the same basis as those for previous years. The figures relating to vessels entering and clearing in ballast in the foreign trade have been greatly increased by the inclusion from January 1 of that year of vessels calling at Southampton and Plymouth to land or embark passengers. But even where a liberal allowance is made for such additions, the strength of the British position in the matter of merchandise marine is not only manifest, but obvious.

According to the returns compiled by Lloyd's Register of Shipping it appears that, excluding warships, there were 399 vessels of 912,272 tons gross under construction in the United Kingdom at the close of the quarter ended March 31, or about 148,000 tons more than was in hand at the end of the December quarter, and about 65,000 tons more than twelve months ago. There are 67 war vessels under construction in the United Kingdom, with a tonnage of 247,765. Of these 11 are being built in the Royal dockyards and 43 in private yards for British service, and 13 in private yards for foreign service or destinations not stated. At Devonport one battleship and one armoured cruiser are under construction, at Portsmouth three battleships are being built, and at Pembroke one armoured cruiser and one third-class cruiser are being built, while at Chatham four submarines are under construction.

DR. STEIN'S EXPEDITION IN CENTRAL ASIA.

It is gratifying to know, says the *Times*, that the Indian Government have lost no time in recognizing the help which Dr. Stein received during his recent expedition from various Chinese officials. His Majesty's Secretary of State for India has been asked to convey the cordial acknowledgments of the Government of India to the officials concerned, through the British Minister at Peking and the Chinese Government. As regards Dr. Stein's Chinese secretary, Chiang-szu-yieh, the Government of India have decided to present him with a gold watch bearing the following inscription:—"Presented by the Government of India to Chiang-szu-yieh for valuable service to Dr. M. A. Stein during his tour of exploration in Chinese Turkestan and Western China, 1906-1908."

THE SHIPPING BOYCOTT.

SERIOUS SITUATION AT HAIPHONG.

The French, British and German steamer lines that call at Haiphong have suddenly raised freight rates to China by 30 per cent. Their Chinese customers at the Tonkin port are dissatisfied, and have boycotted the Conference which sprang the rise upon them. To obtain the facts, a representative of the *Avenir du Tonkin* interviewed a leading Chinese exporter, who explained that the price of rice was too low to admit of him and his fellow-traders paying the increased freight rates. The aim of the boycott is to compel the Conference to charge the old rates again, at the outset. The Chinese exporters are determined upon cheapening freight rates, and have formed themselves into a syndicate which will charter steamers. The latter will carry all the import and export trade passing through Chinese hands at Haiphong.

STUBBORN RESISTANCE.

The syndicate for the present does not intend to make profit out of freights, and will work as economically as possible. Fair rates will be charged so as to meet current outlay. It is hoped in time to lower freight rates below the figure the increase in which brought on all the trouble. The Conference holds out shortly. The boycotters meet with great difficulties in chartering steamers to Hongkong and Shanghai. The Conference has the advantage over them in that, though freight rates in Tonkin are low, they are high in North China. Many of its steamers have forsaken Haiphong, in consequence, for Chinese ports. The resulting crisis at Haiphong presents peculiar features. Almost all the Tonkin rice export goes to Hongkong. Should the Haiphong Chinese exporters stop buying rice, the trade will fall into European hands.

HONGKONG TRADE.

Should the boycott last long, it may have serious results, says the *Avenir*. A 30 per cent. rise in freights means a check on the exportation of many articles, especially grain. Can the rice export trade bear the increase in the long run? Can the Conference stand working along on the old rates at a loss for the benefit of Chinese only? Success on the part of the boycotters means an increase in the number of vessels flying the Chinese flag at Haiphong. The losers will be the French, British and German steamers which have hitherto shared the Hongkong trade.

TRADE BETWEEN CHINA AND JAPAN.

The *Osaka Mainichi* reports that trade between China and Japan this year has been very active. Last year the trade was badly affected on account of the Canton boycott of Japanese goods. During the three months ending March 31st this year the exports from Osaka alone amounted in value to Y.8,014,000, and the imports to Y.939,000. The following table shows the exports and imports during the first three months of the years 1907, 1908, and 1909:—

	1907.	1908.	1909.
	Unit of Y.1,000.	Unit of Y.1,000.	Unit of Y.1,000.
Exports	8,014	6,780	8,164
Imports	939	2,119	2,151

Of the principal exports, there was a big increase in cotton cloth of various kinds, grey shirtings, sheetings, silk and cotton satin, etc., while there was a diminution in umbrellas, copper, porcelain and utensils. Of the imports, flax, raw lacquer, and pig-hair, showed an increase.

DECLINE IN OPIUM REVENUE.

An Indian dispatch of the 17th inst states:—The inevitable reaction in connection with opium revenue has now commenced. The returns of the first sale of Bengal opium this month and of Malwa opium pass duty last month show a falling off as compared with the estimate of over sixteen lakhs of rupees, and as in last year's business the falling off is pretty certain to increase.

THE SUGAR TRADE IN JAPAN

A lull has been reached in the proceedings with regard to the sugar scandal. No more arrests are now anticipated says the *Japan Mail* and people are beginning to turn their attention to the question of sugar itself. The demand for this commodity is always there, especially at this time of the year, and the problem is how the demand is to be supplied so long as the Dai Nippon Sugar Refining Company keeps its doors closed. The total quantity of sugar produced in 1907 in Japan was 138,837,490 catties, and of this total the Dai Nippon Company stood for 64,000,550 catties while its Dai-ri branch stood for 15,828,000 catties. With these two factories thrown out of work, the price of the staple must rise rapidly and the door will thus be opened for the import of foreign sugar, which had virtually been driven from the market by the home product. As to this question of imported sugar the following figures show how largely the quantity decreased during the 19 years ended 1907:—

	Catties.
1898	274,915,600
1899	112,663,400
1900	195,399,900
1901	264,625,300
1902	85,366,200
1903	97,363,300
1904	71,553,900
1905	8,122,200
1906	35,443,200
1907	33,354,700

CHINESE POLL TAX IN SIAM.

THE NEW REGULATIONS.

Regulations have been issued by the Ministry of local Government to take the place of those issued in the year 121 with regard to the Chinese poll tax. The Chinese are asked to pay the ordinary capitation tax, each in the district where he lives, at the place to be appointed for the purpose. The tax may be paid at any time between the 1st of May and 31st of August. The Nai Amphurs have to arrange for the inspection of their districts with a view to ascertaining the number of Chinese, liable to payment of the tax in all the houses. A receipt is to be given to each person paying, and on it will be noted any distinguishing marks on his body. Any Chinese who fails to pay by the 31st August will be fined one tical in addition to having to pay the tax. In the case of a person who refuses to pay or who is unable to pay, the authorities may seize his goods and sell them in satisfaction of the debt, or if he has no goods he will be employed on some public work for 30 days. The kamnan and pu-yai-ban employed on inspection duty and in bringing people to pay will receive a commission, the former of 3 and the latter of 2 per cent. A person arresting a Chinaman who has evaded payment will receive a ward of 25 satang.—*Bangkok Times*.

CRUSADE AGAINST PROLONGED CREDIT.

Speaking at the annual meeting of the Penang Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Cecil Guinness, agent of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, said he feared he was unable to paint in rosy colours the outlook of Penang's trade in the near future. This, he said, was notwithstanding the revival of the crusade by the leading European firms in Singapore against the pernicious system of prolonged credit. He urged the importance of a scheme having in view definitely, the settlement of who the partners of chops were, and said that while protecting creditors traders would not be inconvenienced. Mr. Guinness considered that they could not look to America buying tin freely until the terms of the new tariff were settled, and the home market operated freely. He praised the work of the Government in respect to the facilities for handling cargo at the wharves, which, he said, were now more satisfactory than ever. In conclusion, he expressed the hope that Penang would reap many benefits by the inclusion of Kedah in the federal states.

MASONIC INAUGURATION CEREMONY AT SHANGHAI.

The Masonic Hall was last night (says the *Mercury* of the 1st inst.) the scene of the most important Masonic function which has taken place in Shanghai in recent years, Worshipful Brother Robert Sutcliffe Ivy being inaugurated as District Grand Master of Northern China, E.C. It had been originally arranged that Rt. Wor. Bro. Sir Paul Chater, D.G.M. of Hongkong and South China, should perform the inauguration ceremony, but owing to his having sustained a somewhat serious accident the previous week he was unable to attend, his place being taken by Wor. Bro. T. F. Hough, Deputy D. G. M. of Hongkong and South China. There was a very large attendance of Masons in the hall to witness the ceremony, all the Lodges in Shanghai under the jurisdiction of the District Grand Lodge of Northern China having large contingents while Tientsin, Chinkiang and Kiukiang Lodges were also represented. The local Lodges under the Scottish and Massachusetts constitutions were also fully represented, as was Lodge Johannes under the German Constitution. Besides the Deputy District Grand Master, the District Grand Lodge of Hongkong and South China was represented by Wor. Bros. W. J. Tutcher, D.S.G.M., W. H. Wickham, D.J.G.W., A.O.D., Gourdin, D. G. Sec., and E. C. T. Lewis. A deputation was also present from the District Grand Lodge of Scottish Freemasonry in Hongkong and South China consisting of Wor. Bro. H. Horley, D.G. Sec., and Wor. Bro. F. Last P.D.G.J.D. The proceedings were opened by Wor. Brother T. W. Kingsmill, P.A.G.D.C., P. D. G. M., who extended a hearty welcome to the visiting brethren. All being in readiness Wor. Bro. Ivy was received and the inauguration ceremony was gone through in a most impressive manner. After the Rt. Wor. Grand Master had been duly installed and invested, his first duty was to appoint Wor. Bro. William Charles Murray as Deputy District Grand Master, an appointment that met with universal satisfaction.

At the conclusion of the ceremony a large number of the brethren adjourned to the Club Concordia where a splendid banquet was partaken of. The Town Band under the direction of Mr. Da Souza was in attendance and rendered a choice selection of popular music during the evening. While the banquet was in progress the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and honoured. Songs, etc., were also contributed by several of the musical brethren and a pleasant evening was brought to a close about midnight, thus terminating an historical event that will be long remembered by all who participated.

COLONEL BAYARD AND THE SHANGHAI VOLUNTEERS.

After inspecting the Volunteer Corps at Shanghai on the 24th ult. when 661 rank and file were on the parade ground, Colonel Bayard spoke as follows:—Major Barnes, officers and men of the Shanghai Volunteers, when I was detailed to make this inspection I was told that I should find you a very efficient body of men, but I can assure you that after eight days' inspection of the Corps I am more than surprised at the efficiency I see. I should have liked very much to have had an opportunity of seeing you at work in the field, but from what I have seen of your work, and the reports I have perused of the field work you have done during the winter, I am convinced that you are as efficient in the field as you are on the drill ground. I have had considerable experience with the auxiliary forces of my country, and I know how difficult it is to get men really efficient, and as efficient as you are, in the small number of drills laid down. Your efficiency clearly shows that the best part of you have put in a great deal more time than was laid down, to make yourselves proficient. If not, all I can say is that you have mistaken your vocation. I am particularly pleased to be able to make a satisfactory report concerning your musketry. Our old friend the bull's eye has disappeared, and you have taken most kindly, I am told, to what your Commandant calls "Mr. Bobbing John." This new course

of musketry training is the only one which makes a soldier really efficient. I congratulate you, Major Barnes, and also the Municipal Council, upon having such an efficient body of men. I also congratulate the Corps on having such a Council that responds without grumbling to any suggestion that tends to make you efficient. I shall look with the keenest interest to your welfare in the future, and I trust that you will go on increasing in efficiency and numbers. I shall have pleasure in making the highest possible report on your efficiency to the authorities concerned.

After Colonel Bayard's speech the Corps moved off the parade ground and dismissed.

With Colonel Bayard at the Saluting base were Messrs. D. Landale, W. D. Little, and H. A. J. Macray, of the Council, and Colonel Bruce, Captain Superintendent of Police.

THE OPIUM DEPARTMENT OF INDIA.

The report on the administration of the Opium Department for the twelve months which ended on the 31st October last contains interesting references to the reduction in the cultivation of the poppy in the Behar and Benares Agencies. Consequent on the policy which aims at the eventual extinction of the trade with China in ten years, the Government of India are steadily curtailing manufacture of the drug. The area which is "settled" annually for cultivation was ordered to be restricted to 900,000 bighas in the year 1907-8, but later on it was announced that a further reduction of 50,000 bighas might be carried out. Eventually the area actually dealt with was just under 845,300 bighas as against 952,000 in the preceding year. "This decrease," it is said, "was due partly to action taken by the Department in refusal of licences for the less productive lands in order to effect concentration, partly to the growing unpopularity of the poppy crop and partly to the unfavourable opening of the season." A reduction of over 100,000 bighas in a single year is certainly remarkable, but this would not have been secured if there had not been drought in the Benares Agency, where many of the cultivators abandoned their poppy crop and betook themselves to famine relief works. It is noticed also that the best land is no longer being devoted to the crop. In both Agencies cultivation will be slowly but surely concentrated. Advances will not be made to cultivators whose lands are poor, and as the very best lands will probably be given in an increasing ratio to other crops, it seems likely that the poppy will finally be grown only on soil of medium quality. The result will be a decline in the annual outturn, and automatically, the production of opium will be less and less. It is too early yet to say whether any hardships will be experienced by those who have grown the poppy for many years, but the official reference to the increasing unpopularity of the crop is significant:—"Pioneer."

SERIOUS CAR ACCIDENT IN THE PHILIPPINES.

On the 1st inst. at Baguio, the Philippine Summer resort, a waggon containing American ladies and two gentlemen from the teachers' camp fell over an embankment a distance of twenty feet from one of the roads near Sunup, the residence of Commissioner and Mrs. Newton W. Gilbert. As a result of the accident Miss Bessie Taylor and Miss Nina Paddock are in the hospital, the former with a broken clavicle the latter suffering from contusions and Mrs. James F. Connolly is at her residence badly bruised. Several others of the party sustained painful though not serious hurts.

In falling the waggon turned turtle and the top was demolished. Driver Starks was forced to hold the wreck balanced on one corner while the ladies pinioned beneath it extricated themselves, aided by Mr. James P. Connolly. That the party escaped with so few injuries is regarded as little less than miraculous.

Those composing the party were Mesdames E. B. Barrows, T. L. Johnson, Edith Horiston, E. B. Baldrige, L. W. Ford, James F. Connolly; the Misses Nina Paddock, Anna King, Bertha Tibbets, and Bessie Taylor, and Mr. James F. Connolly and Driver Starks.

A FOOCHOW WEDDING.

LACHLAN—RENNIE.

Foochow was *en fête* on Thursday, April 22nd, the occasion being the marriage of Miss Daphne Rennie, the popular daughter of our much respected medico and his wife, Dr. and Mrs. T. Rennie, with Mr. F. P. Lachlan, *chizce* of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd. Foochow. The social event had been looked forward to with keen interest by the many friends of the Bridal pair, so that as anticipated the Church was filled to its utmost capacity. The ceremony took place at the British Episcopal Church at 2 p.m., the Right Rev. Bishop Price, assisted by Rev. Dr. Mackenzie, tying the nuptial knot. The Church was most tastefully decorated for the occasion with Arum lilies, ox-eye daisies, white lilac, and other seasonable flowers daintily entwined amongst green foliage, and showing an artistic touch in their arrangements. The chancel and altar steps were a harmony of flowers on trellis work of stringed leaves with little baskets of roses hanging in the openings, and sprays of fern softening the effect. White drapings were carried round the church walls with Virginia creepers hanging over them, and wherever white appeared on the pulpit or choir stalls sprays of maidenhair fern were pinned on in artistic groupings. The Aisle was indeed a "Bridal path" with bamboo crooks holding baskets of flowers at each pew, for the bride to walk under. Mr. and Mrs. Shelley Brand deserve great credit for the effective decorations. The service was fully choral, Rev. Pakenham Walsh presiding at the organ and being ably assisted by the Choir. Instead of the exhortation ending the Marriage Service the Bishop gave a very impressive sermon on the importance of beginning married life the right way. As Miss Rennie's arrival was announced, and the Bridegroom took his place at the altar-rails, the Choir sang "Oh rest in the Lord," and a prettier scene than the Bridal procession has rarely been witnessed in Foochow. The tall and handsome bride, leaning on the arm of her father, who afterwards gave her away, followed by bonny little attendants, made a charming picture which will dwell long in the memory of those present. The bridegroom was supported by Mr. A. E. Reynell as best-man, and the Misses Violet Greig and Dorothy Grant as bridesmaids, whilst the little Masters Gurth Dulling, and Nicholas Siemssen acted as pages.

The bride was attired in an exquisite gown of ivory satin, with a court train of the same material lined with silk and chiffon ruchings suspended from the shoulders. The dress was semi-Empire style, fastening at the back over a yoke of tucked Bretonne net, with a broad panel of silk embroidered filet insertion extending from the corsage to the hem of the skirt, and finished off with a spray of orange-blossom, filet insertion also extended from the yoke to the shoulders. The long train was ornamented with large true lover's knots in twisted chiffon, holding sprays of orange-blossom. She wore a tulle veil over a coronet of orange-blossom, and carried a handsome bouquet of Bridal roses, white Lilac, Jessamine, and delicate maiden-hair fern. The bouquet was of unusual design, being in the form of a large horseshoe, with streamers of green tulle knotted at intervals over buds of orange blossom, and a bow of white satin ribbon tied over a holder of silk and real lace. The bridegroom's gift to the bride was a diamond cluster ring and a gold watch bracelet.

The bridesmaids looked sweet in white embroidered muslin frocks, and bronze shoes and stockings, with turquoise-velvet capes lined with white satin falling from their shoulders. They wore velvet "Juliet" caps with silver bead tassels, and carried white sticks tied with white Iris and fern, and streamers of blue ribbon.

The tiny pages were dressed in white satin 18th Century costumes with lace ruffles at necks and wrists. Their hair was powdered, and they held plumed hats under their arms. Each little attendant did his and her duty well, and showed keen interest in the proceedings. The bridesmaids were presented with gold brooches, and the pages received gold pencils set with turquoise, the shade of their miniature waistcoats.

After the ceremony and the signing of the register, the bridal procession left the Church to the strains of the "Wedding March" for the residence of Dr. and Mrs. Rennie where a reception was held. Here further artistic touches met the eye, for the cake itself was an excellent sample of the confectioner's art, and had come all the way from England without a crack on its tempting surface. It was of the new shade of pale cinnamon, and was in two tiers, the upper portion supported on four dainty little white sugar pillars, and crowned by a sugar-white vase containing flowers. Other dainty refreshments were served and were placed about the tables for the guests.

In an adjoining room there was an attractive display of beautiful wedding presents which were much admired. Many congratulatory telegrams were received during the day which afforded a still further indication of the popularity of the happy pair.

After a happy congratulatory speech from the Ven. Archdeacon Wolfe who called to remembrance the fact that he had christened the bride, the cake was cut and healths toasted. Later a photographic group was taken, first of the bridal party alone, and another to include the guests. Mr. and Mrs. Lachlan left at 3.30 p.m. amidst showers of rice and lucky horseshoes, accompanied by the inevitable crackers, for their honeymoon.

Mrs. Lachlan's travelling dress was a short Bolero coat, and a skirt of white cloth trimmed with soutache-insertion, and crochet buttons outlining the front panel of the skirt. With this was worn a smart lace blouse, and a white chiffon, trimmed at the side with white wings.

Mrs. Rennie wore a very handsome grey satin-cloth gown made *en princesse*, the upper part ending in apron effect over a grey satin underskirt, and trimmed with filet insertion of a darker shade and tassels of soutache braiding. The yoke was composed of very fine lace over gold-tinsel chiffon, finished at the corsage with Oriental *galon*. Filet insertion with tassels of soutache braid and chiffon drops completed the trimming of the bodice. The sleeves were of dove-grey chiffon rucked from shoulder to wrist. With this costume was worn a grey chip-straw tope with a brim of poppies and chrysanthemums of the same shade, relieved with a bunch of pink roses. Mrs. Rennie also carried a very handsome bouquet of roses to match.—*Foochow Echo*.

THE PHILIPPINES.

IMPENDING DEPARTURE OF THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

The Manila *Cablenews* says:—

On the 8th day of May, there will sail from the islands one American who has given a decade out of the most important part of his allotted time on earth to the Philippines and who takes away nothing but the best wishes of all interested here in the advancement of insular development. Few Americans during the last score of years have been so closely identified with the many phases of our overseas expansion as Governor James F. Smith and we do not believe that Washington could have chosen a man to represent the interests of the administration here who would have demonstrated more perfect loyalty or endeavored to interpret the policy more liberally than the Executive who is about to retire. And it is especially true of his attitude to those who have little faith in the McKinley policy here that he was frank, disinclined to resent differences of opinion, and never, to our knowledge, treated those who refused to endorse the administration otherwise than with the greatest consideration and courtesy so long as he believed in their sincerity. He has been the most democratic governor general. Never, since he put his foot on Philippine soil as colonel of the California regiment, has he refused to grant an interview to a countryman and to show that friendly interest that has perhaps more than anything else endeared him to the members of the American colony. His warm, democratic hospitality is known from Suez to Vladivostok and it might be said that his example and interest has made Manila more popular in Eastern Asia among her neighbours during his administration than ever heretofore. Indeed, from the encomiums of the Far Eastern press, we fear for him when Hongkong discovers him in her harbour,

Governors General have come and gone and outside the Philippines the incidents did not involve even a ripple. When General James F. Smith goes home the Far East will note it and anywhere he lands there will be a warm welcome awaiting him.

IMMIGRATION INTO THE PHILIPPINES.

A joint resolution instructing the resident commissioners in the United States to obtain from Congress jurisdiction for the Philippines legislature to prohibit, restrict or to favor the immigration of foreigners into the Philippines was introduced last week into the assembly by Delegates Agoncillo, Velarde and Mercado.

The intention of this resolution is to ward off the possible action of Congress raising the bars to Asiatic immigration to this country as a result of the passage of the Payne bill. There is a rooted fear among many Filipinos that the impetus given to agriculture and other industries in this country as a result of the passage of the Payne bill will result in a demand for more and cheaper labor and that to supply it Congress will allow the entry of Japanese and Indian laborers under contract or even without it.

The one thing that these opposers of the Payne bill most fear is the competition that might result from the entry of Japanese and Chinese. The former being a sturdy agricultural people, hundreds of whom have already taken up that branch of industry throughout the country, in the lowlands of Luzon and the mountains of the Visayas, and even in the more fertile regions of Mindanao, with great success, are the most feared.—*Cablenews*.

THE WAIWUPU BUILDING.

Work on the construction of the Waiwupu building is certainly remarkable. Two weeks ago, the place was nothing more than a wilderness which has since been rapidly changed into a palace of the most modern type. If any one claims credit he is certainly Mr. D. C. Jameson, the supervising architect. The arrangements in and out are simply perfect. Above the door is "Waiwupu" in Chinese characters. Within, the compounds are divided into two roads surrounded by gardens, the building standing in the middle. Electric lights of the most modern type have been installed right from the wall of this up-to-date structure to the ground outside the door of the Waiwupu proper, in front of which is another small garden upon which are plants of various flowers that have only been just planted. Walking into the building one would never believe that he is in China. Furniture, from the most luxurious chair to the carpet, whose various colours, workmanship and fashion varies as you look through the long row of the different departments, are of the finest obtainable.

As one walks from one apartment to another he would think he was in one of the finest hotels in Paris, London, and New York. The furniture arrangements in the various apartments consist of a display of one or more sets of the best Chinese black wood chairs of the most perfect workmanship. The apartments for the use of His Highness Prince Fushimi are the most luxuriously furnished of all; adjoining these are quarters for the suite of His Highness. The banquet hall, which is on the top floor has accommodation for some three hundred guests. In front are parlours which communicate with the banquet hall so that theatrical performances may be given while a banquet is on if required; but in ordinary times a big door which forms a sort of a wall partitioning the two places is lowered down. Prince Ching's office will be on the second floor, next to his on the right is that of H. E. Natung's. H. E. Liang Tun Yen's office is at the left. The entire building is fitted up with electric lights and steam heaters and as one passes through the galleries he would take it for the State Department in Washington. Behind the building are offices for junior officials.—*Chinese Public Opinion*.

Long-distance telephone connection is to be opened this month between Dalny and Yinkow (Newchwang).

CHINA ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING IN LONDON

SPEECH BY SIR C. DUDGEON.

MR. R. S. GUNDREY ON THE UNIVERSITY OF HONGKONG.

[From our own Correspondent.]

The annual general meeting of the China Association was held on Tuesday (April 6th) at the offices of the P. & O. Steam Navigation Company, Leadenhall St. London, when there were present:—Sir Charles Dudgeon, (Chairman) Sir Thomas Jackson, Sir Alfred Dent, Messrs. Byron Brenan C.M.G., R. S. Gundry, C.B., D. Warren Smith, T. Brown, R. C. Wilcox, P. Maclean, H. Keswick, F. Salinger, D. C. Rutherford, J. S. Mackintosh, G. B. Dodwell, J. H. Ross Taylor, H. Wilcockson, A. Zimmermann, F. Cornes, G. Stewart, C. V. Hogg, A. M. Townsend, C. Raeburn, G. Jamieson C.M.G., T. H. Whitehead, H. G. Harwood, W. Harwood, C. V. Sale, T. M. Dermer, P. H. Browne, T. Lemont, H. C. Wilcox (Acting Secretary).

The CHAIRMAN proposed that the report and accounts be received and adopted. In doing so he said that it had been a year of peculiar interest in Far Eastern affairs, and the bulkiness of the report gave evidence of the many questions which had occupied the attention of the home and foreign Committees. The report opened with an allusion to the dramatic events in Peking last November, when death removed both the Emperor Kwang Hsu and the Empress Dowager Tsze Hsi—the virtual ruler of China during a period which covered the Far Eastern experience of all those present. The history of the Empress had yet to be written, but whatever the historical appreciation of her reign might be, there could be no doubt that her name would go down to posterity as one of the most remarkable and renowned of the world's female potentates. For many years the prediction had been that the death of the Empress Dowager would be the signal for great changes in the Empire, but they were yet too close to the event to gauge the truth of these predictions. They had witnessed a seemingly peaceful succession to Kwang Hsu with apparent promise of a policy of progress and reform, but this promise had been shaken by the sudden dismissal of Yuan Shih-kai. It seemed, however, that the new regime was determined upon the prosecution of a far-reaching policy of domestic reforms, and already one official had been dismissed for malversation of railway funds. As regarded China's foreign relations, Sir Charles thought there was not much evidence of improvement in her traditional policy. China gave little but asked for much, and she was ready enough to give promises, and to take all she could from Western Powers. By playing off one set of financiers against another she had been peculiarly successful of late in obtaining loans on terms of constantly diminishing security. A door of trade was opened 67 years ago, but the hinges creaked, the door had jammed, and could only be opened through the application of lubricating oils, which were not contemplated in the Treaties.

Sir Charles then passed to the Manchurian question and said it was surely putting a strain upon their credulity to ask them to believe that the Portsmouth Treaty of Peace represented a final settlement of the question. Were they to suppose that the Russian policy in Northern Asia, consistently pursued since the days of Yermack, was going to be abandoned by reason of temporary defect? Surely not, Russia had met with similar checks before, but her policy was never abandoned. The Treaty of Nerchinsk stopped her forward movement for 150 years, but she had since occupied the whole of the Amur region, and they saw the occupation of Port Arthur and Ta-lien-wan in the closing years of the last century. The last check would not produce a change in policy, evidence of which might not improbably be seen in their time.

A question of particular interest in Manchuria was that of the proposed railway extension from Hsinmintum to Fakumen, the construction of which had been vetoed by the Japanese on

grounds which they failed to find convincing (hear hear). All efforts to persuade Japan to remove her veto had failed. Japan would neither submit the question to arbitration nor reply to China's request for a definition of the limit west of the Liao river up to which China might develop the hinterland of Newchwang. Sir Charles also criticised Japan's claims to exercise all rights in the so-called "Zones" of the South Manchurian Railway.

Concerning the Huangpu Conservancy works Sir Charles said it was perfectly plain that the cost of the work had been woefully under estimated and that a financial deadlock was threatened. The Shanghai Chamber of Commerce had addressed the Consular Body on the subject, and he hoped that the financial situation would be satisfactorily adjusted.

Coming to opium, Sir Charles regretted that the resolution proposed by the British delegates, expressing disappointment at China's inability or failure to produce trustworthy evidence, was withdrawn, for that seemed to him to be the crux of the situation. They had been told in the House of Commons that they must "act up to the standard set by the Chinese Government." Some of them smiled at that statement, knowing what they did of Chinese methods of obscuration, and even Chinese officials themselves had not been slow in showing the absurdity of certain Chinese statistics on this question. The Opium Commission in Shanghai sat, in its foreign representation, in absolute good faith. They had yet to know the result, but if much had not been attained, it was because the Chinese seemed to evidence little more than Oriental interest in the exploitation of a situation fraught with undeniable possibilities. The Chinese had to make up their mind that no one would be duped into making material sacrifices for the sake of sham reforms. (Hear hear.)

Regarding the vexed question of piracies of trade marks by certain unscrupulous merchants in Japan and Korea, it was gratifying to know that matters were assuming a more satisfactory position. Japanese statesmen and Japanese Chambers of Commerce appeared to have seriously taken the matter in hand, warning their countrymen against the continuance of the flagrant dishonesties complained of, and though the Japanese Government was showing a somewhat unaccountable delay in concluding the Trade Marks Convention yet they might hope to see the matter satisfactorily set at rest before long. When this was completed then the negotiations with China on the question could be proceeded with. Sir Charles expressed the thanks of the Committee for the valuable assistance which had been given by H.M.'s Ambassador at Tokio in the matter of protecting British Trade Mark rights.

Sir Charles stated that the Currency decree of October 5th was welcomed as evidence that China was at last about to give effect to the obligations which she undertook under the second article of the Treaty of 1902, but another six months had passed without apparent sign of anything further being done. The Committee thought that the correspondence published in the appendix would be of considerable illuminative interest, as showing the well-nigh hopeless financial chaos into which China had allowed her currency matters to drift. It might be safely predicted that unless China seriously took in hand the questions of her currency, of her foreign loans and of her finances generally, and that without delay, financial disaster stared her in the face. (Applause.)

In conclusion Sir Charles dealt with railways and mining, two questions illustrative of the Chinese policy of "giving too little and taking too much." They had lately seen the criticisms of the Peking correspondent of the *Times* regarding the Shanghai-Ningpo Railway and the British section of the Tientsin-Pukow line. China had violated the condition of her railway loan contracts, and another instance of want of good faith might be adduced by the Canton-Hankow railway.

The question of Mining brought prominently to mind the personality of their old friend Mr. Archibald Little, whose death all deeply deplored. Mr. Little's pioneering instincts led him into the remoter fields of British adventure in China. Methods were always open to criticism, and the methods adopted by Mr. Little in Szechuan had been the subject of much easy armchair

criticism in the more comfortably situated centres of Shanghai and elsewhere. He personally maintained that no ever attempted more in the direction of co-operative work with the Chinese than Mr. Little did. The reports dealt with this co-operative work as applied in Mr. Little's pet venture of developing the coal wealth of Szechuan. No more favourable terms of exploitation could possibly have been given to the Chinese, and yet the result was sickening and disheartening opposition at every turn. The consequence was a broken heart to Mr. Little and the practical abandonment of the enterprise. The enterprise of the London and China Syndicate in Anhwei was full of promise, and the result was the same—dogged obstruction and sickening failure—and yet by the Treaty of 1902 (Article IX) China solemnly undertook to encourage the introduction of foreign capital for mutual benefit in the exploitation of her mineral wealth. Referring in conclusion to the financial statement of the Association.

Sir Charles stated that the year began with a deficit of £27 and ended with a credit of £48, and their assets stood at £2,200, an increase of £100 as compared with the previous year (applause). He then formally moved the adoption of the report.

Mr. R. S. GUNDREY seconded the proposition. He observed that they had listened with great interest to the clear and lucid review which the Chairman had given them of the leading incidents of the past year. He proposed to allude to two subjects on which the Chairman had not touched, namely their own School for Chinese and the proposed University for Hongkong. The report spoke of the endowment of the former scheme as pending in the future, but it would be gratifying to them to know that through the munificence of certain members of the Association, what was then in the future, was now accomplished. The School was an accomplished fact, and he was sure, in a certain sense, that the success of the school might militate against the success of the Hongkong University, for they could not keep on putting their hands in their pockets however much they might be in sympathy with the object to be helped. There was a plethora of Chinese educational schemes before the public at the present moment. There was their own school; the very promising schemes of the University of Hongkong, thanks to the munificence of Mr. Mody to provide all the necessary buildings, and Lord William Cecil was advocating a Chinese Missionary University. The Chinese Emergency Committee—he confessed he had not yet fully recognised where the emergency came in—had persuaded the Lord Mayor to hold a meeting at the Mansion House for the purpose of inviting support for this western teaching scheme. It was all very well to say that they could all flourish together. Those who said that were for the most part not those who put their hands in their pockets. As a matter of fact the resources which could be drawn upon were limited, and these resources being limited there must be a certain amount of rivalry. He was certain that their whole-hearted sympathies would go out as members of that Association to the British Colony of Hongkong (applause). He expressed that view with the unqualified approval of the Committee in a letter which was supported in the editorial columns of the *Times* two days later. He was sure they would as members of the Association generally endorse the attitude he then took up (applause).

Mr. Gundry then went on to say that the Chinese were neither paupers nor barbarians. They were not devoid of resources, nor of the knowledge how to organise educational institutions, so why should they at home divert money from their own imperial needs to supplement Chinese schemes. He noticed that the Viceroy of Nanking was going to establish an engineering College in Shanghai; well, they wanted one in Hongkong. The same remarks applied to the Chinese University which was now viewed with less favour in exalted quarters in Peking. Another point the Emergency Committee laid stress upon was the design of medical teaching, but the most important feature of medical teaching, as regarded education at any rate, was anatomy. How were they going to teach anatomy in a country where dissection was forbidden by public prejudice? How could they teach surgery effectively in the absence of

anatomy? Hongkong had no prejudice. They had there a well-equipped medical school. That school, if enlarged, would be able to turn out really qualified practitioners in greater number than before. Mr Gundry stated that they had received the following letter signed by members of the medical profession connected with China, advocating a medical faculty for the Hongkong University:—

To the Chairman, China Association.

Sir,—The efforts being made in Hongkong to establish a University are no doubt well known to you. It is needless to enlarge upon the importance of an educational centre of the kind contemplated. A University by which Western scientific and educative methods generally are brought to the very doors of China would be of incalculable benefit to China and to the Chinese. From a British point of view the question becomes one of Imperial importance, for the language of the nation by which instruction is conveyed gives to that nation a position and creates an affiliation between the peoples deeper rooted than that afforded by either political groupings or mutual commercial benefits.

The idea of founding a University in Hongkong is the outcome of the establishment of a College of Medicine in Hongkong in October, 1887. The College has done excellent work. At the present moment the establishment of the College on a more permanent basis is about to be accomplished.

In 1907, Dr. J. C. Thomson, on a visit to London, explained to a gathering of those directly interested in the College of Medicine in Hongkong that such a scheme was afoot, and appointed a Committee to bring the matter prominently forward in Britain. The Committee, at a meeting held in March, 1909, resolved to approach the China Association, with the view of requesting the Association to take up the whole question of a University for Hongkong and of the future of the College of Medicine. The Committee consider that, as the College of Medicine is already in being, that the College ought to become a Faculty of the University, and that were a Faculty of Engineering formed as well, the University could commence work at once.

The Committee in London having the affairs of the College of Medicine in hand are aware that the chief difficulty in regard to the teaching in medicine is providing funds for the establishment of chairs of anatomy and of physiology. Anatomy can only be satisfactorily taught by an anatomist who devotes his whole time to the subject. The same is true of physiology. The teachers for the other subjects are obtainable locally. Already we have in Hongkong a department of botany, of chemistry, of public health, of bacteriology, and of pathology; medicine, surgery and midwifery can be taught as efficiently as they are in this country by men engaged in the practice of their profession.

Anatomy and physiology, however, require not only that the teachers of these subjects are specially trained, but that they devote the whole of their time to their subjects.

The question of providing money for the payment of the teachers of these subjects is a pressing one, for, by their creation on a proper basis, the College of Medicine in Hongkong would be in a position to give a training which would be complete and which would be recognised by universities and colleges in Britain. Nothing else prevents the College of Medicine in Hongkong being fully equipped so as to render it worthy of becoming a faculty of a university.

The Committee of the College of Medicine in London wish to place these facts clearly before the China Association.

The cost of establishing such chairs would be not less than £500 a year for the anatomist, and £500 for the physiologist. Could these sums be guaranteed for say five years, the Committee believe that after the lapse of that time the Faculty of Medicine of the University would be, by the influx of students, self-supporting, which would result when the University was in full work.

The Committee beg to submit the names of those who are interested in the matter of the College of Medicine becoming a Faculty of the University, and who desire the China Association officially to take up in this country the advancement of the established of a university in Hongkong.

Mr. GUNDRY continuing, said, in connection with the University of Hongkong, there was another point on which most of them agreed, namely that the experiment of sending Chinese students abroad had not been an unqualified success. It was proposed that the standard of the Hongkong University should be at least equal to that of any University in England. There would therefore be provided for the sons of Chinese gentry at their own portals, education of the highest class in scientific and medical subjects—those which they most desired and most needed, without subjecting them to the disintegrating influences which they encountered abroad. From their point of view, therefore, he thought he might assume that the whole-hearted support of members of that Association—such pecuniary support as they might feel disposed to give—but unquestionably their whole-hearted moral support and sympathies would go out to the project which they would find described at length by Sir Frederick Lugard in the report (applause).

The proposition was then carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN proposed that the following gentlemen constitute the General Committee:—
Rt. Hon. Sir Cecil Smith, P.C., G.C.M.G., Sir E.A. Sassoon, Bt. M.P., Sir Thos. Jackson, Bt., Sir T. Sutherland, G.C.M.G., Sir Alfred Dent, K.C.M.G., Sir Charles Dudgeon, Messrs John C. Bois, Byron Brenan, C.M.G., A. R. Burkill, F. Cornes, G. B. Dodwell, R. S. Gundry, C.B., Wm. Harwood, R. H. Hill, G. Jamieson, C.M.G., H. H. Joseph, Henry Keswick, W. Keswick, M.P., D. C. Rutherford, C. V. Sale, J. H. Scott, Gershom Stewart, H. D. Stewart, W. M. Townsend, W. C. Ward, T. H. Whitehead, R. C. Wilcox, A. G. Wood, and A. Zimmermann.

Mr. GEORGE JAMIESON, in seconding, remarked that although he was a member of the Committee, yet he felt he could truthfully say that in the previous year the Committee had been very assiduous in their attention to the many questions which had come before them. A considerable improvement had been effected in the secretarial department, which had enabled the discussions to take place with more satisfaction to all parties. He felt that the Committee were endeavouring to carry out the business of the Association in the best manner possible.

This resolution also was carried unanimously. As a result of the ballot Mr. J. H. Scott was elected President, Sir Charles Dudgeon Chairman, Mr. George Jamieson Vice-Chairman and Mr. R. Chatterton Wilcox honorary treasurer.

The proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman, Mr. Gundry remarking that it should be more than a formal vote, as the Chairman's duties were heavy, not only at that meeting but also throughout the year (applause).

CHINA THE FIRST HOME OF GOLF.

IS THE GAME EXPENSIVE?

A writer in the *Globe* says "while Scotland is popularly understood to be the country where the game of golf originated, I think, without fear of contradiction, I can safely say that China is the country responsible for the birth of the game. Scotland certainly brought golf into notoriety, largely due to the fact that the local authorities in the various towns have established golf courses for the masses. Take, for instance, Edinburgh, where, on the Braid Hills course, which is one of the finest inland courses in the British Isles, you can have a round for two pence, and a tram-car ride from any part of the city to within a few hundred yards of the first tee. Under such conditions golf is not expensive, but I should hesitate to suggest that, under ordinary conditions, as the game is played in the Louth, golf is an inexpensive game. By the time one has paid railway fare, new ball, caddie, lunch, and sundries which last item is often the largest of the lot, a day's golf becomes nearly as great a luxury as a day's polo." This is the first time, by the way, we have heard it claimed that China was the first home of golf! Golf is certainly an expensive game at home wherever there are no town courses. It usually means for the Londoner a day's holiday, a railway journey, luncheon, caddie's fee, two new balls, besides extras.

THE SHANGHAI RACES.

FIRST DAY'S RESULTS.

Shanghai, May 3rd.

The Spring Race Meeting opened to-day. Results are as follows:—

THE SUBSCRIPTION GRIFFIN PLATE.—Value, Tls. 200. Second pony, Tls. 50. Third pony, Tls. 25. For Subscription Griffins of this meeting. Weight for inches as per scale. Three-quarters of a mile.

Mr Wingard's Banff (Moller) ... 1
Mr Fem's Moustique (Schnorr) ... 2
Mr John Peel's Whitmuir (Johnstone) ... 3
Time, 1m. 33.4/5 sec.

THE CRITERION STAKES.—Value, Tls. 400. Second pony, Tls. 100. If five or more starters, Third pony, Tls. 50. For China ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. One mile.

Mr Ballnus' Gemini (Moller) ... 1
Mr Jedmor's Sokol (Alderton) ... 2
Mr Oswald's Ravenshoe (Willeumier) ... 3
Time, 2m. 6 1/2 sec.

THE GRIFFIN'S PLATE.—Value, Tls. 400. Second pony, Tls. 100. If five or more starters, Third pony, Tls. 50. For China ponies that have never run at any meeting. Weight for inches as per scale. Three-quarters of a mile.

Mr Nægi's Fabulus (Vida) ... 1
Mr Dick Turpin's Vanguard (Springfield) ... 2
Mr Ballnus' Sirius (Moller) ... 3
Time, 1m. 30.4/5 sec.

THE CATHAY CUP.—Value, Tls. 250. Second pony, Tls. 75. If five or more starters, Third pony, Tls. 50. For China ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Griffins at date of entry allowed 7 lbs. One mile and a half.

Mr Barley's Moriak (Poulsen) ... 1
Mr Saxo-Borussia's Sagittarius (Moller) ... 2
Mr Toeg & Speelman's Susquehanna (Hayes) ... 3
Time, 3m. 12.4/5 sec.

THE POU-MA-TING CUP.—Value, Tls. 250. Second pony, Tls. 75. If five or more starters, Third pony, Tls. 50. For China ponies, being bona fide Griffins at date of entry. Weight for inches as per scale. One mile.

Mr Toeg and Speelman's Wye, (Hayes) ... 1
Mr Hasty's Dobequick (Alderton) ... 2
Mr John Peel's Kirkcudbright (Johnstone) ... 3
Time, 2m. 6.2/5 sec.

THE HART LEGACY CUP.—Presented by the late Mr. James Hart. Value, Tls. 100 with Tls. 150 added. Second pony, Tls. 75. If five or more starters, Third pony, Tls. 50. For China ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Half-a-mile.

Mr Buxey's Rêve d'Or Rose (Campbell) ... 1
Mr John Peel's Kirkwood (Johnstone) ... 2
Messrs Toeg & Speelman's Peiho (Hayes) ... 3
Time, 58.2/5 sec.

THE JOCKEY CUP.—Value, Tls. 200. Second pony, Tls. 75. If five or more starters, Third pony Tls. 50. For China ponies that have never won a Race. Weight for inches as per scale. Subscription Griffins of this meeting allow 5 lbs. To be ridden by Jockeys who have never had more than two winning mounts at Shanghai, Hongkong or Tientsin. Jockeys, non-winners allowed 5 lbs.; winners of one Race, weight for inches as per scale; winners of two Races, 7 lbs. extra. One mile.

Mr Argentino's el Animal (King) ... 1
Mr Paignton's Orcas (Rowe) ... 2
Mr Maslin's Angus (Lindsay) ... 3
Time, 2m. 05.2/5 sec.

THE KIANGSU CUP.—Value, Tls. 250. Second pony, Tls. 75. If five or more starters, Third pony, Tls. 50. For China ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Jockeys who have never won an Official Race allowed 5 lbs. One mile and three-quarters.

Mr Buxey's Celia Rose (Vida) ... 1
Mr Fash's Marbles (Alderton) ... 2
Mr Marius' Argante (Poulsen) ... 3
Time, 3m. 45.2/5 sec.

THE ECLIPSE STAKES.—Value, Tls. 300. Second pony, Tls. 100. If five or more starters, Third pony, Tls. 50. For China ponies being bona fide Griffins at date of entry. Weight for inches as per scales. Winners of any Race 7 lbs. extra. Jockeys who have never won an Official Race allowed 5 lb. One mile and a quarter.

Mr Saxo-Borussia's Pegasus (Moller) ... 1
Mr W. G. Pirie's Pieman (Alderton) ... 2
Mr Barley's Mazultob (Poulsen) ... 3

Time, 2m. 39-1/5 secs.
THE CHILLY CUP.—Value, Tls. 200. Second pony, Tls. 50. Third pony, Tls. 25. For Subscription Griffins of this meeting. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners 10 lbs. extra. One mile.

Messrs Toeg and Speelman's Don (Hayes) ... 1
Mr John Peel's Whitmoss (Johnstone) ... 2
Mr Muslin's Morsel (Lindsay) ... 3

Time, 2m. 09 secs.

SECOND DAY'S RESULTS.

SHANGHAI, May 4th.

The results of to-day's meeting were as follows:—

THE CHU-KA-ZA CUP.—Value, Tls. 250. Second Pony, Tls. 75. If five or more starters, Third Pony, Tls. 50. For China Ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners of a Race at this Meeting 5 lbs. extra. Non-Starters at this Meeting 7 lbs. extra. Jockeys who have never won an Official Race allowed 5 lbs. Three Quarters of a Mile.

Mr. Beverly's Worcester (Vida) D.H. ... 1
Mr. Jedmor's Sokol (Alderton) ... 3
Mr. Oswald's Ravenshoe (Wuilleumier) ... 3

Time, 1 m. 27-3/5 secs. This beats the record by 2-1/5 secs.
THE SHANGHAI DERBY.—Value, Tls. 750. Second Pony, Tls. 200. Third Pony, Tls. 100. For China Ponies, being bona fide Griffins at date of entry. Weight for inches as per scale. One Mile and a Half.

Messrs Toeg and Speelman's Wye (Poulsen) 1
Mr. MacWatt's Russley (Cumming) 2
Mr. Durgor's China (Jones) 3

Time 3 m. 9-2/5 sec.
The record for this race was beaten by two fifths of a second.

THE MONGOLIAN PLATE.—Value, Tls. 200. Second Pony, Tls. 50. Third Pony, Tls. 25. For Subscription Griffins of this Meeting. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners of one Race 5 lbs. extra, two Races 10 lbs. extra. Jockeys who have never won an Official Race allowed 5 lbs. One Mile and a Quarter.

Mr. Wingard's Banff (Moller) ... 1
Mr. John Peel's Whitmoss (Johnstone) ... 2
Mr. Kamel's Vingt-et un (Jevers) ... 3

Time, 2 m. 42 secs.
THE RACE CLUB CUP.—Value, Tls. 250. Second Pony, Tls. 75. If five or more starters, Third Pony, Tls. 50. For China Ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. 5 lbs. allowed to any Pony that has never won a Race of One Mile and a Half or over. Two miles.

Mr. Fash's Marbles (Alderton) ... 1
Mr. Saxo-Borussia's Sagittarius (Moller) ... 2
Mr. F. B. Marshall's Palm Tree (Vida) ... 3

Time 4m. 19-3/5 sec.
THE GRAND STAND STAKES.—Value, Tls. 250. Second Pony, Tls. 75. If five or more starters, Third Pony, Tls. 50. For China Ponies, being bona fide Griffins at date of entry. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners, 7 lbs. extra. One Mile and a Quarter.

Mr. Durgor's China (Jones) ... 1
Mr. Barley's Mazultob (Poulsen) ... 2
Mr. R. Macgregor's Platypus (Cumming) ... 3

Time, 2 m. 37-1/5 secs.
THE SICCAWEI CUP.—Value, Tls. 300. Second Pony, Tls. 100. Third Pony, Tls. 50. For China Ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Ponies that have started at this Meeting and not won a Race, allowed 4 lbs. Griffins, Winners allowed 4 lbs.; Non-Winners allowed 7 lbs. One Mile and a Quarter.

Mr. Ballnus' Gemini (Moller) ... 1
Mr. Beverly's Brockton (Vida) ... 2
Messrs. Toeg and Speelman's Sutlej (Hayes) 3

Time, 2m. 37-1/5 secs.
THE PEKING STAKES.—Value, Tls. 200. Second Pony, Tls. 50. If five or more starters, Third Pony, Tls. 25. For Subscription Griffins of this Meeting. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners of one Race, 5 lbs. extra; of two or more, 10 lbs. extra. Unplaced Ponies allowed 3 lbs. One Mile.

Mr. W. G. Pirie's Yeoman (Moller) ... 1
Mr. Elms' Homestead (Schnorr) ... 2
Mr. Ardnaglas' Brumby (Jones) ... 3

Times, 2 m. 04-4/5 secs.

THE SHANGHAI STAKES.—Value, Tls. 500. Second Pony, Tls. 100. If five or more starters, Third Pony, Tls. 50. For China Ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. One Mile and a Half.

Mr. Barley's Moriak (Poulsen) ... 1
Mr. Buxey's Celia Rose (Vida) ... 2
Mr. Jedmor's Sokol (Alderton) ... 3

Time, 3 m. 09-4/5 secs.
THE SPRING CUP.—Value, Tls. 250. Second Pony, Tls. 75. If five or more starters, Third Pony, Tls. 50. For China Ponies that have started at this meeting and never won a Race. Weight for inches as per scale. Jockeys who have never won an Official Race allowed 5 lbs. One Mile.

Mr. Hasty's Hurry up (Lanning) ... 1
Messrs. Morris and Ayscough's Medfield (Vida) 2
Mr. Fash's Pianola (Alderton) ... 3

Time, 2m 04-4/5 secs.
THE SCURRY STAKES.—Value, Tls. 250. Second Pony, Tls. 75. If five or more starters, Third Pony, Tls. 50. For China Ponies being bona fide Griffins at date of entry. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners, 7 lbs. extra. Seven Furlongs.

Mr. Noegi's Fabulus (Moller) ... 1
Mr. Hays' Seafarer (Poulsen) ... 2
Mr. Waveny's Loadstone (Vida) ... 3

Time, 1m. 45-3/5 secs.

THIRD DAY'S RESULTS.

SHANGHAI, May 5th.

The results of to-day's meeting were as follows:—

THE GREAT NORTHERN PLATE.—Value, Tls. 250. Second Pony, Tls. 75. If five or more starters, Third Pony, Tls. 50. For China Ponies that have run at this Meeting. Weight for inches as per scale. Winner of one Race at this Meeting, 7 lbs. extra; two or more Races, 10 lbs. extra. Jockeys who have never won an Official Race allowed 5 lbs. Seven Furlongs.

Mr. Beverly's Brockton, (Vida) ... 1
Messrs. Toeg and Speelman's Peiho, (Hayes) 2
Mr. Oswald's Ravenshoe, (Wuilleumier) ... 3

Time, 1.45-2/5, record.
THE RUBICON PLATE.—Value, Tls. 250. Second Pony, Tls. 75. If five or more starters, Third Pony, Tls. 50. For China Ponies, being bona fide Griffins at date of entry. Weight for inches as per scale. One Mile and a Quarter.

Mr. MacWatt's Russley Cumming) ... 1
Mr. Noegi's Fabulus (Moller) ... 2
Mr. Jeromi's King Cole (Wuilleumier) ... 3

Time, 2.38-4/5.
THE SHANTUNG STAKES.—Value, Tls. 200. Second Pony, Tls. 50. Third Pony, Tls. 25. A forced entry for all Subscription Griffins otherwise entered at this Meeting. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners of one Race, 5 lbs. extra; two Races, 10 lbs. extra. Unplaced Ponies allowed 5 lbs. One Mile.

Mr. Wingard's Banff, (Moller) ... 1
Mr. Kamel's Vingt-et-un, (Vida) ... 2
Mr. W. G. Pirie's Yeoman, (Cumming) ... 3

Time, 2.06-3/5.
THE PARI-MUTUEL STAKES.—Value, Tls. 300. Second Pony, Tls. 75. If five or more starters, Third Pony, Tls. 50. For China Ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Griffins at date of entry allowed 7 lbs. A penalty of 7 lbs. for Non-Starters and Winners at this Meeting. One mile and a half.

Mr. Buxey's Celia Rose (Vida) ... 1
Mr. N. W. Hickling's Maybury (Sparke) ... 2
Messrs. Toeg and Speelman's Susquehanna (Hayes) 3

Time, 3 mins. 10-2/5 secs.
THE RACING STAKES.—Value, Tls. 250. Second Pony, Tls. 75. If five or more starters, Third Pony, Tls. 50. For China Ponies, that have not run before 1st January 1909. Weight for inches as per scale. Griffins at date of entry. and Non-Winners at any Meeting, allowed 5 lbs. extra. One mile.

Mr. John Peel's Kirkcudbright (Johnstone) 1
Mr. Dick Turpin's Vanguard, (Springfield) 2
Mr. Hays' Seafarer, (Poulsen) ... 3

Time, 2m. 04-2/5 secs.

THE YANGTZE CUP.—Value, Tls. 250. Second Pony, Tls. 75. If five or more starters, Third Pony, Tls. 50. For China Ponies that have run at the meeting. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners at this Meeting 5 lbs. extra. Unplaced Ponies allowed 5 lbs. One mile and Three-Quarters.

Mr Toeg and Speelman's Stirrup Cup ... (Hayes) 1
Mr Toeg and Speelman's Spree (Alderton) ... 2
Mr Saxo-Borussia's Sagittarius (Moller) ... 3

Time 3m. 44-4/5 secs.
THE MANCHU STAKES.—Value, Tls. 250. Second Pony, Tls. 75. If five or more starters, Third Pony, Tls. 50. For China Ponies, bona fide Griffins at date of entry, that have run and not won a Race. Weight for inches as per scale. One mile and a quarter.

Mr Dick Turpin's Vengeance (Springfield) 1
Mr R. McGregor's Platypus (Cumming) ... 2
Mr Hasty's Dobequick (Alderton) ... 3

Time 2m. 38-4/5 secs.
THE CONSOLATION CUP.—Value, Tls. 250. Second Pony, Tls. 75. If five or more starters, Third Pony, Tls. 50. For China Ponies that have run at this Meeting and not won a Race. Weight for inches as a per scale One mile. and a quarter.

Messrs Morris and Ayscough's Medfield (Moller) 1
Mr Oswald's Ravenshoe (Wuilleumier) ... 2
Mr California's Sacto (Dalgarno) ... 3

Time 2m. 37-45 secs.
THE CHAMPION SWEEPSTAKES.—Value, Tls. 800. Second Pony Tls. 200. Third Pony, Tls. 100. For all China Ponies Winners at the Meeting. Weight for inches as per scale. One mile and a quarter.

Mr Ballnus' Gemini (Moller) ... 1
Mr Durgor's China (Jones) ... 2
Mr Beverly's Worcester (Linton) ... 3

Time 2m. 33-4/5 secs.
THE NIL DESPERANDUM CUP.—Value, Tls. 200. Second Pony, Tls. 50. Third Pony, Tls. 25. For Subscription Griffins of this Meeting that have run and not won a Race. Weight for inches as per scale. Unplaced Ponies allowed 5 lbs. Seven Furlongs.

Mr. Thimbe's Giliak (Lanning) ... 1
Mr. Jedmer's Orel (Railton) ... 2
Mr Fem's Moustique (Cunning) ... 3

Time 1m. 48-3/2. secs.

ANALYSES.

Analyses of wins and places, of owners, jockeys and ponies at the recent meeting, are as under:—

OWNERS.	1ST	2ND	3RD
Messrs Toeg and Speelman...	4	2	4
Mr Buxey ...	3	1	—
Mr Ballnus ...	3	—	1
Mr Wingard ...	3	—	—
Mr Beverley ...	2	1	1
Mr Barley ...	2	1	1
Mr Noegi ...	2	1	—
Mr John Peel ...	1	3	2
Mr Saxo-Borussia ...	1	2	1
Mr Dick Turpin ...	1	2	—
Mr Hasty ...	1	1	1
Mr Fash ...	1	1	1
Mr W. G. Pirie ...	1	1	1
Mr Durgor ...	1	1	1
Messrs Morris and Ayscough...	1	1	—
Mr MacWatt ...	1	1	—
Mr Argentino ...	1	—	—
Mr Jedmore ...	—	3	1
Mr Thimbe ...	1	—	—
Mr Oswald ...	—	1	3
Mr Fem ...	—	1	1
Mr Kamel ...	—	1	1
Mr Macgregor ...	—	1	1
Mr Hays ...	—	1	1
Mr N. W. Hickling ...	—	1	—
Mr Elms ...	—	1	—
Mr Paignton ...	—	1	—
Mr Muslin ...	—	—	2
Mr Marius ...	—	—	1
Mr F. B. Marshall ...	—	—	1
Mr Ardnaglas ...	—	—	1
Mr Waveny ...	—	—	1
Mr Jeromi ...	—	—	1
Mr California ...	—	—	1

JOCKEYS	1ST	2ND	3RD
Mr Moller	10	3	2
Mr Vida	5	4	2
Mr Poulsen	3	2	3
Mr Hayes	3	1	4
Mr Lanning	2	—	—
Mr Alderston	1	6	3
Mr Johnstone	1	3	2
Mr Cumming	1	3	2
Mr Springfield	1	2	—
Mr Jones	1	1	2
Mr Campbell	1	—	—
Mr King	1	—	—
Mr Schnorr	—	2	—
Mr Wiulleumier	—	1	4
Mr Rowe	—	1	—
Mr Sparke	—	1	—
Mr Railton	—	1	—
Mr Lindsay	—	—	2
Mr Jevers	—	—	1
Mr Dalgarno	—	—	1
Mr Linton	—	—	1
PONIES.	1ST	2ND	3RD
Banff	3	—	—
Gemini	3	—	—
Fabulus	2	1	—
Celia Rose	2	1	—
Moriak	2	—	—
Wye	2	—	—
China	1	1	1
Marbles	1	1	—
Russley	1	1	—
Brockton	1	1	—
Medfield	1	1	—
Kirkcudbright	1	—	1
Worcester	1	—	1
Yeoman	1	—	1
Giliak	1	—	—
Vengeance	1	—	—
Stirrup Cup	1	—	—
Hurry Up	1	—	—
Don	1	—	—
Pegasus	1	—	—
Animal	1	—	—
Rève d'Or Rose	1	—	—
Sokol	—	2	1
Sagittarius	—	2	1
Whitemoss	—	2	—
Vanguard	—	2	—
Ravenshoe	—	1	3
Moustique	—	1	1
Dobequick	—	1	1
Peiho	—	1	1
Mazullop	—	1	1
Vingt-et-un	—	1	1
Platypus	—	1	1
Seafarer	—	1	1
Kirkwood	—	1	—
Orcas	—	1	—
Pieman	—	1	—
Homestead	—	1	—
Maybury	—	1	—
Spree	—	1	—
Orel	—	1	—
Susquehanna	—	—	2
Whitmuir	—	—	1
Sirius	—	—	1
Angus	—	—	1
Argante	—	—	1
Morsel	—	—	1
Palm Tree	—	—	1
Sutley	—	—	1
Brumby	—	—	1
Pianola	—	—	1
Loadstone	—	—	1
King Cole	—	—	1
Sacto	—	—	1

HANKOW RACE MEETING.

These races took place on the 26th, 27th and 28th ult. The heat on the opening day was excessive. Heavy rain fell the previous day, but the course quickly dried up and the times were good. The results were as follows:—

SPRING CUP.—Value \$150. For all Ponies.

Once round.

Mr Sceptic's Othello (O'Connell), 152 lbs ... 1
Mr A.N.R.'s Zagadka (Cheliagin), 155 lbs ... 2
Mr Ewo's Abdul Aswas (Gegg), 149 lbs ... 3

Also ran,—Adjedan, Acrobatique, Pulo Babi, Longbill, Moritz, Nassauer.

PARI-MUTUEL CUP.—Value \$150. For all ponies. Half a mile.

Mr Lash Ma Hagow's Bantam (Chalmers), 150 lbs ... 1

Mr Sceptic's Brutus (Tokmakoff), 158 lbs ... 2
Mr Elton's Heather (O'Connell), 155 lbs ... 3

Also ran Banzai, Moench, Daffodil, Payatz.

MAIDEN STAKES.—Value \$150.—Three quarters of a mile.

Mr Ardnaskela's Alimdul (Moss), 152 lbs ... 1
Mr A. N. R.'s Zero (Cheliagin), 149 lbs ... 2
Mr Soychee's Eiger (Meyer), 155 lbs ... 3

Alimdul won in a canter in the record time of 1.32 4.5.

Also ran—Widukind, Wait a Minit, Vals, Max, Thermos, Redstart, Cryptic, Gladiator.

GERMAN CUP.—Presented by Germans residing in Hankow, Hanyang and Wuchang. For Griffins. To be won twice consecutively, or three times in all, by Griffins, the bona fide property of the same owner, or owners.

Once round.

Mr Pagiwa's Nassauer (Huschelrath), 158 lbs ... 1

Mr Luerssen's Donar (Owner), 155 lbs ... 2

Mr Sceptic's Iago (Tokmakoff), 156 lbs ... 3

Time, 2.12 1.5. Also ran, Sansonetto, Kelpie, Daffodil Moench, Vivarais, Moritz, Gidra, Bradenham, The Duffer, Acrobatique.

The winning horse had one solitary backer in the Pari-mutuel, which paid \$747.

LOTTERY CUP.—Value, \$150. For all ponies. One mile and a half.

Mr Week's Longbill (Tokmakoff), 156 lbs ... 1

Mr Ewo's Abdul Aswas (Gegg), 149 lbs ... 2

Mr A.N.R.'s Zagadka (Cheliagin), 155 lbs ... 3

Time 3.22 2-5 Won by 2 lengths.

Also ran Pulcinella, Pulo Babi, Adjedan, Missouri.

SHAPAO CUP.—Value \$150. For all ponies. One mile and a quarter.

Mr Sceptic's Othello (O'Connell), 152 lbs ... 1

Mr Soychee's Eiger (Meyer), 156 lbs ... 2

Mr Klon's Payatz (Tokmakoff), 156 lbs ... 3

Only three starters for the race and as expected Othello won comfortably by several lengths. Time 2.45 3-5.

CHINESE RACE CLUB CUP.—For all Ponies. Seven furlongs.

Mr Ardnaskel's Alimdul (Moss), 157 lbs ... 1

Mr Evrika's Vopros (Cheliagin), 149 lbs ... 2

Mr Lash-Ma-Hagow's Bantam (Chalmers), 154 ... 3

Time 1.49, another record.

Also ran Widukind, Wait-a-Minit, Heather, Brutus.

BRITISH CUP.—Presented by British Residents in Hankow, For Griffins.—One mile and a quarter.

Mr Sceptic's Iago (Tokmakoff), ... 1

Mr Klon's Gladiator (Bouchard), ... 2

Mr Klon's Acrobatique (Moss), ... 3

Time 2.46. Also ran—Donar, Redstart, Cryptic, Brightling, Pullet, Zero, Banzai.

SECOND DAY.

A heavy rain-storm prevailed on Monday night and continued all Tuesday morning. The course as was natural was in anything but good condition but a liberal sprinkling of sand did much to alleviate matters.

HANKOW DERBY.—One mile and a half.

Mr. Ardnaskela's Alimdul (Moss), 152 lbs ... 1

Mr. Lee's Missouri (Boucard), 155 lbs ... 2

Mr. Sceptic's Iago (Tokmakoff), 155 lbs ... 3

Time, 3.38 4.5. Also ran—Lira, Brightling, Redstart, Pullet, Banzai.

SWISS CUP.—Presented by Swiss residents in Hankow and Hanyang. For all ponies.—One mile and a quarter.

Sir Rholand's Pulcinella (Giuliani), 152lbs ... 1

Mr. Sceptic's Othello, (O'Connell), 152lbs ... 2

Mr. Ewo's Abdul Aswas, (Gegg), 149lbs ... 3

Time, 2.58-2/5. Also ran—Acrobatique, Pulo Babi, Zagadka.

LADIES PURSE.—Once round.

Mr. Evrika's Vopros, (Cheliagin), 149lbs ... 1

Mr. Elton's Heather, (O'Connell), 153lbs ... 2

Mr. Weeks' Longbill (Tokmakoff), 159lb ... 3

Time, 2.21 3-5.

Also ran Sansonetto, St. Louis, Bantam, Moritz, Payatz.

FRENCH CUP.—Presented by French Residents in Hankow. For Griffins. One mile.

Mr Renan's Daffodil (O'Connell), 149lbs ... 1

Mr Mac's Kelpie (Gegg), 152lb ... 2

Mr. Ewo's Cryptic (Stewart), 152lbs ... 3

Time 2.22 3-5. Also ran—Vals, Virarais, Bradenham, Max, Nassauer, Wait-a-Minit, Moench, Widukind, Zero.

TAIKOO YANGTZE CUP.—Presented by Captains, Officers and Engineers of the China Navigation Co., Ltd. One mile.

Mr Evrika's Vopros (Cheliagin), 154lbs ... 1
Mr Sceptic's Othello (O'Connell), 157 lbs ... 2
Mr Lash Ma Hagow's Bantam (Chalmers), 154 lbs ... 3

Time, 2.20 2-5. Also ran Banzai, Moritz.

HUPH CUP.—One mile and a half.

Mr Weeks' Longbill (Tokmakoff), 159 lbs ... 1

Mr Ewo's Abdul Aswas (Gegg), 149 lbs ... 2

Mr Lee's Missouri (Bouchard), 15 lbs ... 3

Time 3.39 4.5. Also ran Uro and Payatz.

RUSSIAN CUP.—Presented by Russian Residents in Hankow. For Griffins. One mile and a quarter.

Mr Klon's Gladiator (Bouchard), 150 lbs ... 1

Mr Luerssen's Donar (Owner), 150 lbs ... 2

Mr Mac's Kelpie (Gegg), 147 lbs ... 3

Time 3.00 3.5. Also ran—Cryptic, Redstart, Iago, Acrobatique, Gidra, Pullet.

HANKOW STAKES.—A forced entry for all Ponies entered at this meeting.—One mile and a quarter.

Sir Rholand's Pulcinella (Giuliani), 152 lbs ... 1

Mr Ardnaskela's Alimdul (Moss), 152 lbs ... 2

Mr Sceptic's Brutus (Tokmakoff), 958 lbs ... 3

Time 2.59 1-5. Also ran—Zagadka, Moench, Missouri, Pulo Babi.

HONGKONG CORINTHIAN YACHT CLUB.

MOTOR BOAT RACE.

Although the yachting season is closed, and the dog days, so far as sport is concerned, have arrived, the name of the Corinthian Yacht Club is not to be allowed to sink into oblivion. The spirit of sport which pervades most of the members has caused them to promote motor boat and model yacht races, and these will be run at intervals during the off season. One of these motor boat races took place yesterday for two prizes presented by Mr. C. A. G. Roberts, and a third which came out of the entrance fees. The course was round the island, and six motor boats started on their handicap times. The boats entered, and the times of starting, were as under:—

	H.	M.	S.
Lark, sailed by J. W. Kew	10	—	—
Maudie, sailed by A. Ramsay	10	36	36
Vital Spark, sailed by A. Byrne	10	41	52
Jean, sailed by Dr. Pearse	10	55	01
Tarras, sailed by G. K. Haxton	10	58	56
Veronica, sailed by C. A. G. Roberts	11	33	16

All the boats got smartly away, *Vital Spark* crossing the line in too much of a hurry and having to recross. Through the Lyemoun Channel a north-easterly wind was encountered. thence on to Cape Collinson an easterly breeze. Very heavy swells prevailed as far as Chinshimun. the helmsmen being kept particularly busy. After passing Bluff Head the wind freshened from the north-east, but there was only a slight sea. At Ma Kong Island the boats got into calm weather, and here the *Tarras* put in to get a supply of kerosene, that which she carried proving unsuitable for racing. Through the Sulphur Channel there were strong head currents, but the race to the Club was with a slack tide, the times of finishing being as follows:—

	H.	N.	S.
Lark	3	19	23
Maudie	2	39	30
Vital Spark	2	43	15
Jean	2	43	47
Veronica	3	2	00

Tarras did not finish. The race was thus won by *Maudie*, with *Vital Spark*, (which is owned by Mr. Templeton) second, *Jean* third. It may be here mentioned that a number of the old "sports" of the Club, including the treasurer, followed the boats round the island to witness the race, and to render assistance if necessary.

At the Club House later, Mr. Roberts presented the winners with their prizes, congratulated them on the result of the race, and on their sportsmanlike qualities which did so much in promoting the prosperity of the Corinthian Yacht Club.

The other starters receive souvenirs in commemoration of the race.

Mr. A. McKirdy stated that the committee of the Club were deeply indebted to Mr.

Roberts for the support he had given to the motor boat section. He had spent a great deal of time promoting interest in this section, and no trouble had been too great for him in his praiseworthy efforts. He had given great stimulus to this class of sport, and his labours promised to bear fruit in the near future. It was hoped that there would be many additions to the motor boat fleet next year.

FAR EASTERN TELEGRAMS.

OBITUARY.

Tokyo, May 3rd.

The death is announced of Mr. E. T. Bethell, proprietor and Editor of the *Korea Daily News*. The cause of death was heart failure.

PROMOTION FOR MR. ROCKHILL.

Tokyo, May 6th.

Mr. W. W. Rockhill, who has been the United States Minister at Peking since 1905, has been promoted to St. Petersburg.

[Mr Rockhill's career is thus set forth in *Who's Who in the Far East*:—Born April 1, 1854. m Edith Howell Pekins. Educ.: at Paris, France. Appointed 2nd Secretary of Legation, Peking, April 9, 1884; Secretary of Legation, Peking, July 1, 1885; Charge d'Affaires,orea, Dec., 1887, to April, 1887; with two scientific missions to China, Mongolia and Tibet under auspices of Smithsonian Institution; received Victoria gold medal, Royal Geographical Society 1893; Chief Clerk, Department of State, Washington, April 1893; 3rd Assistant Secretary of State, Feb., 1896; Minister of the U.S. to Greece, Roumania and Servia, July 1897; Director of International Bureau of American Republics, Washington, May, 1899; Special Commissioner of U.S. to China, July 20, 1900; Plenipotentiary of U.S. for settlement of Boxer troubles, Feb., 1901; resumed duties at Washington, Oct., 1901; Minister of U.S. to Chinese since March, 1905. Publications: Various Oriental and geographical works. Clubs: Metropolitan, Washington; Cosmos, Washington. Address: American Legation, Peking, North China.]

AMERICAN SQUADRON AT YOKOHAMA.

Tokyo, May 6th.

The American Asiatic Squadron has arrived at Yokohama.

Receptions are being planned similar to those which have just been tendered to the British Squadron.

JAPANESE EXHIBITION.

Tokyo, May 7th.

The Council of Aldermen have decided to hold a great exhibition in 1911.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."

THE EMPEROR'S FUNERAL.

IMPOSING PAGEANT.

Peking May 2nd.

Yesterday the funeral of the Emperor Kwang Hsu took place. It started early in the morning from the Koon Tak Palace. The Imperial Bodyguard and the Imperial attendants and the cavalry took precedence in the procession. They were followed by men carrying boards of honour, banners, etc., and next came the Imperial carriages. Next in order were the Princes, followed by musicians who did not play the instruments which they carried. Then came the wreaths sent by governments of different countries. Members of the Imperial Household, officers of the various boards, members of the Imperial clan took their places in the order mentioned, and near the coffin of the Emperor were the Empress Dowager, the Prince Regent, and the other wives of the Emperor, who were followed by the ministers of the various countries. The Prince Regent only went as far as the back door of the Palace, where a memorial service was held. The Prince Regent then returned. The Foreign Ministers also held a memorial service at the back door.

CHINA'S MILITARY PREPARATIONS.

Peking, May 2nd.

The Board of Military Affairs has ordered nineteen Krupp guns from Germany. They are to be sent to China by the Siberian Railway.

It is proposed to change all the old guns in the forts throughout the Empire.

THE PRATAS.

Peking, May 7th.

The Board of Foreign Affairs has given adequate proof to the Japanese Minister that the Pratas Islands belong to China. The Japanese Minister agreed to wire to Tokyo to that effect, and pending instructions from his Government he declared that he would order the Japanese on the islands to leave immediately.

LAND ANNEXATION.

Peking, May 7th.

The Governor of Shantung has wired to the Board of Foreign Affairs that a German at Tsingtao has illegally taken possession of over 100 li of land. The Governor asks the Board for instructions as to how to deal with the matter.

THE PRATAS.

Now that these islands have attracted considerable notice it is interesting to learn that they are not to be allowed to return to their former obscurity. It is reported that the Viceroy of the Two Kwang Provinces has appointed officials to proceed to the Pratas in order to make a proper survey of the islands and devise means to make them a trading centre. On hearing this, we understand, some Chinese in Canton are making efforts to form a syndicate with small capital to prospect the place.

COMMERCIAL.

RICE.

SAIGON.—Messrs. Wm. G. Hale & Co. in their latest circular dated Saigon 3rd April, report:—Our last circular was issued on the 2nd ultimo and the latest postal advices received since are as follows:—Hongkong 27th ultimo; Yokohama 16th ultimo; Manila 23rd ultimo; Java 23rd ultimo; Singapore 29th ult. and London 2nd ult. We quote for May to June.

No. 2 White sifted (<i>trié</i>) steam milled round	 *
No. 2 White unsifted (<i>ordinaire</i>) steam milled (round)	 \$3.22
5 % Cargo steam milled round	... 2.87
10 % Cargo steam milled round	... 2.82
20 % Cargo steam milled round	... 2.70
* Prices according to terms and conditions.	

The following is a statement of this year's Exports of White Rice, Cargo Rice and Paddy:—

Destination.	Total pes.
Hongkong	30,004
Manila	7,980
Cebu	10,278
Singapore	12,683
Sourabaya	24,420
Ceylon	306
Egypt	10,079
Europe	53,797
Total	149,547
Same period of last year	318,994

HONGKONG, 10th May.—The quotation of the market is about the same as when last reported.

Saigon, Ordinary	 \$4.50 to \$4.60
" Round, Good quality	... 4.75 to 4.80
" Long	 4.65 to 4.70
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2	... 4.80 to 4.85
" Garden, " No. 1	... 4.65 to 4.70
" White,	 4.95 to 5.00
" Fine Cargo	 5.10 to 5.15

OPIUM.

Quotations are:— HONGKONG, May 7th.	
Malwa New	 \$1,070/1,080 per picul.
Malwa Old	 \$1,090/1,100 do.
Malwa Older	 \$1,110/1,140 do.
Malwa Very Old	 \$1,150/1,185 do.
Persian Fine Quality	 \$1,020/1,050 do.
Persian Extra Fine	 \$850/900 do.
Patna New	 \$995 per chest.
Patna Old	 \$1,030 do.
Benares New	 \$1,015 do.
Benares Old	 \$— do.

JAPANESE MARKETS.

Yokohama, 15th April, 1909.—Cotton Yarns.—A few insignificant transactions have been put through. Cotton Piece Goods.—Faint interest has been shown in White Shirtings, but otherwise the market generally has been very quiet. Woollen and Woollen Mixtures.—This period is still between the seasons, although there is a sign of movement in the market. Textiles Generally.—There is a better tone apparent in all lines, and deliveries, although still somewhat slow, are more satisfactory. Raw Cotton.—Owing to the considerable rise of values in producing countries, business is at a complete standstill. Rice.—Quotations remain practically unchanged. The market has a better tone and stocks of imported Rice are being rapidly reduced. Quotations for Japan Rice have risen, the market closing firm with an upward tendency. Metals.—Metals remain quiet, buyers still holding off. Window Glass.—This article is dull owing to heavy stocks, coupled with a lack of demand from consumers. Sugar.—A small business has been done in Hongkong Refined. Flour.—The scarcity of stocks in the home markets has raised prices to a level which buyers are not inclined to follow; hence the complete absence of business. Wheat.—Latest reports indicate that the new American crop is likely to be short.

Kobe, 16th April.—Cotton.—American.—Since our last report "forward" quotations have shown a steady rise, doubtless due to the anxiety caused regarding the condition of the new crop, combined with which the strong market in Bombay tends to maintain the present high rates in America. Latest quotation for "forward" Middling is reported at Yen 34.50 but at this rate no business of importance has been done. "Spot" closes at Yen 33.50. Indian.—The market has been extremely active since our last report, prices rising steadily day by day, showing at the close a rise of about Yen 4.00 per picul on previous quotations. This activity is attributed to the fact that the crop has turned out much shorter than anticipated and spinners in Bombay who have been hesitating for a considerable time past to purchase, commenced to buy freely. This combined with good demand from Japan caused prices to rise. According to official reports, stocks in Bombay have decreased by 300,000 bales during the past week. "Spot" business is brisk, and fair transactions are reported. Prices have fluctuated in sympathy with home rates. Stocks in the market are small. Closing rates are:—Broach Yen 29.00. Akola Yen 27.00. Chinese.—There is no fresh news to report in either "forward" or "spot," and quotations have remained steady at Yen 28.50 for "best" and Yen 25.50 for "common." Shirtings Cotton Goods and Fancies the market continues dull. Worsteds and Woollens.—Prices for Wool are constantly rising but the Osaka market for piece goods remains as low as ever. Metals.—Pig Iron and Bars are in poor demand; Galvanized Sheets and Tinplates are improving but Wire Nails are depressed owing to over-supply. On the whole market is dull. Rice.—The market shows a somewhat firmer feeling at the close.

SUGAR.

Kobe, 16th April.—Sugar.—Cane.—Raw.—Java.—The market remains unchanged, no stocks. Muscovados Basi 96% Pol. Colour 12½ average is quoted at Yen 5.80 per picul ex ship. Formosa.—Low grades are firm. Osaka Refined.—The usual auctions took place on 5th and 13th instants. At first auction, 5,200 bags of Osaka manufacture were sold at prices showing an advance in some grades of 10 to 25 sen and 800 and 1,000 bags of Kobe and Yokohama Sugars were disposed of at an advance of 15 to 30 sen. At the second auction, 3,500 bags Osaka Sugar, 1,000 bags Kobe and 1,000 bags Yokohama were sold at the same prices as first auction.

EXPORTS.

Copper.—The improvement in the London quotations has caused a slight revival in this market and moderate transactions are reported in some brands but the majority of holders are still keeping back. Fish Oil.—The Herring catch commenced in the early part of the month but lately has been interrupted by storms. Quantity yielded so far does not equal that during the same period of last year. Rice.—Market has ste died. Cotton Yarn.—Market firm owing to the scarcity of stock and advance of Raw Cotton. Vegetable Wax.—Little enquiry; a few hundred case-changed hands. Matting.—Market continues dull and prices of all grades show a decline. Straw Braid.—There has been little activity on the market during the past fortnight. Prices, however, are well maintained. Chip Braid remains steady.

PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co. in their Piece Goods Report, dated Shanghai 23rd April, 1909, state:—We stated last week that but for the moderately good clearances the market would be deadly dull—this week there is scarcely that qualification. The rise in Exchange has the effect of causing buyers to withdraw what offers they may have had out, and they do not seem inclined to renew them, evidently expecting Exchange to rise much higher. This, however, is quite problematical, as the strength of the home Silver market seems to depend a great deal on the conditions prevailing here. Of course we are coming to the season when commercial paper is usually more in evidence, which should assist in keeping rates up, but there is no specific reason why any material advance should take place. However, it is now being made the excuse for a gamble and a good many questionable legitimate transactions are going through, which is very detrimental to the trade. The dealers doing all they know to "bear" the market, but it is beyond a doubt that there is a steady demand which the merchants are nursing, and are abstaining from any anticipatory business except on the most retail scale. The limited must have been reached when one man wanted to wire an order for three cases of certain goods! This is undoubtedly the slackest season of the year, but there is no apparent reason why clearances should already commence to slacken off, considering the moderate quantities that have gone into consumption so far. The only item that shows any material increase being Cotton Yarns. The extraordinary way in which prices for all spinings are keeping up should augur well for piece goods, but the disparity between the two continues. There is nothing of special interest to advise from the Out-ports. Harvesting the Spring Crops should soon be on now, and very favourable they seem to be, then the planting of the Rice and Cotton Crops will occupy the attention of the Country people for a time, that being the chief cause for the lull in trade. Manchester is reported strong, though there are easy spots to be found where prices have not advanced abnormally. The enhanced prices although not altogether uniform stops business, and prevents any advantage being derived from the higher rates of Exchange. From various causes not altogether clear Cotton is advancing, the Liverpool quotations for Mid American being 5.51d. spot and 5.42d. for July/August option. Egyptian is quoted 8.5d. The New York prices are fluctuating, yesterday 10.48 cents for July and 10.20 cents for December were received, but to-day 10.40 cents coming for the latter month. It seems so thoroughly well known that prices for Piece Goods in that market are so high it is not consider necessary to wire quotations, but it is understood they are being well maintained. The market for Yarn has continued active, but towards the close buyers are holding off in view of the large quantities held by indentors, as they may be forced to sell as drafts become due. To illustrate the strength of the Bombay market some 3,000 bales July/September shipment have been bought at prices that are ten rupees over the previous business done. Private business is practically at a standstill, offers made for goods in stock, and only for absolutely retail quantities, being too low for acceptance. The rise in Exchange is made the excuse for this although it is well known that a large proportion of the goods here are on a tael basis and do not benefit but the advance. From second hands more movement is reported in American makes at firm prices. Tientsin being the chief buyer, though Newchwang is also doing something in the same line. At the Auctions prices have been on the easy side throughout. To-day at the Ewo sale, in Grey goods light weights and common 8.4-lbs. were lower 2 to 3%, the better class of 8.4-lbs. 2 to 3 cands. down, low 10-lbs. 3 to 4 candareens and the better makes 2 to 3 candareens lower, as were the heavier makes. Whites went at about steady price, Grey T-Cloths easier and Jeans slightly better. Turkey Reds have sold at weaker prices during the last few days. Fast Black Italians, have shown some redeeming features, but Venetians have sold at easier prices. All Woollens have been weaker. American Sheetings and Drills—The resales amongst the native do not amount in the aggregate to a very large quantity, the individual transactions not exceeding more than 25 or 50 bales at most. We have heard of Piedmont K. Drills at Tls. 4.45 and the following Sheetings:—Langley C. Tls. 4.35, Buffalo A Tls. 4.50, Dwight A Tls. 4.70, Whitney Tls. 4.90 and Pacolet Tls. 4.92. All of which show a slightly firmer tone.

FOOCHOW IMPORTS.

YARN.—Since 1st June, 1908:—	
As per last circular.....	28,744.90 piculs.
Since last circular.....	1,620.00 "
Total	28,324.90 "
KEROSENE.—Since 1st June, 1908:—	
As per last circular.....	5,039,711 gallons.
FLOUR.—Since 1st June, 1908:—	
As per last circular.....	425,633 bags.
Since last circular.....	18,917 "
Total	444,550 "
OPIUM.—Since 1st June, 1908:—	
As per last circular.....	2,169½ chests.
Since last circular.....	84 "
Total.....	2,253½ "

EXPORTS:—

TEA.

Foochow, Apr. 30th—The following settlements have taken place during the week:—

	1-Chests	1-Chests	1-Chests	1-Chests
	Congou.	Souchong.	Oolong.	Pekoe.
Arrivals.....	25,000	123,500	55,782	8,287
Settlements..	241,610	121,770	55,782	8,287
Stocks.....	8,390	1,730		

The Tea Export Summary from commencement of Season to date has been:—

	Total lbs.
Austria	1,524,919
France	1,266,402
Germany	4,034,928
Holland	1,095,693
London	4,787,898
Russia	763,654
Other Countries	533,412
South America	238,561
Australia & N. Z.	1,354,193
U. S. & Canada	5,841,606
South Africa	118,853
Coastwise Southward	89,217
Coastwise Northward	37,412
Total Shipments	21,679,748

SILK

RAW SILK.—Our last report was dated the 25th March, when a general feeling of dullness prevailed. Since then prices receded still further, Sinshius going down to Yen 865; but by the 3rd inst. a reaction set in and an advance of about Yen 30. per picul was experienced. At the close, things are again quiet, the Easter holidays having interrupted business.

WASTE SILK.—Quotations show no change since last report. Transactions at present are limited to small parcels. Settlements from Mar. 25th to April 11th, 1,400 piculs. Total Settlements from July 1st to April 11th, 56,500 piculs. Stock on April 12th is estimated at 4,700 piculs, viz:—Noshi 850 piculs, Kibizzo 3,000, Pierced Cocoons Sundries 850, total 4,700 piculs. Against last year 13,000 piculs.

HABUTAI.

KANAZAWA.—A slightly firmer tendency is noticeable since our last Report; this is not due to any increased demand, but is more on account of the difficulty of obtaining satisfactory goods. Business from America has almost ceased, and there is only an enquiry for 23 inch from Europe. Echizen.—The above remarks apply also to this market, and, in connection therewith, not much improvement has to be recorded from the inspection changes which commenced on the 1st of the month. Kawamata.—There has been a better demand for 23 inch, quotations for which show an advance of 30 to 40 sen per piece.

FOOCHOW EXPORTS.

CAMPHOR.—Since 1st June, 1908:—	
As per last circular.....	5,375.08 piculs.
Since last circular.....	281.00 "
Total	5,659.08 "
CAMPHOR OIL.—Since 1st June, 1908:—	
As per last circular.....	50.21 piculs.
Since last circular.....	24.10 "
Total	74.31 "

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG 10th May:—There is no movement in this market, and prices are the same.

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per P. & O. steamer *Assaye*, sailed on 1st May. For New York—1 case silk pce goods. For Hamburg—5 cases human hair. For Manchester—130 bales waste silk. For Gibraltar—1 case silk pce goods, 1 case curios. For Barcelona—1 case personal effects. For Lyons—201 bales raw silk. For Marseilles—156 bales raw silk, 50 bales waste silk, 93 cases tea, 3 cases bird feather, 4 bales human hair, 3 cases cigars. For London—10 bales raw silk, 346 bales waste silk, 6 cases silk, 9 cases empty cylinders, 1 case hand screen, 1 case pamphlets, 1 case hat. Naples—1 case silk goods.

Per P. & O. steamer *Nubia*, sailed on 5th May. For London—478 cases tea, 54 bales feathers, 68 cases chinaware, 60 bales canes, 5 cases bristles, 3 cases blackwoodware, 2 cases cigars, 16 cases P-effects and curios, 2 cases woodware. For Marseilles—5 bales human hair.

HONGKONG SHARE QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 7 h 1909.—The market has ruled quiet during the week and although several stocks have been in demand but little business has resulted and the tone has been decidedly dull. Rates however have ruled steady in most cases and the market closes steady to strong. Exchange on London closes at 1/9½ Demand, and on Shanghai at 75½.

BANKS.—A few small sales were effected in the early part of the week at 95½ but in sympathy with the rise in sterling exchange the rate gradually fell to 94½, at which a few odd lots changed hands. The market closes quiet with some small lots still obtainable at 94½. Nationals remain unchanged and without business.

MARINE INSURANCE.—Unions continuing in demand the rate gradually rose to 82½, with only small intervening sales at 81½ and 81½, the market closing firm with buyers at \$820. Cantons show an improvement with some small buyers at 19½. North Chinas are enquired for at the improved rate of 104 ex div of 7/6 paid on the 1st May. Yangtzes remain unchanged and without business.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have ruled steady with sellers at 337½ and buyers at 335, but without business. Chinas continue in demand at 106 but no sales are reported.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have been in demand and the rate has risen, to 31½, with sales at that and at 31½, the market closing with further buyers at the latter rate. Indo-China have weakened and sellers at 79 for the combined shares fail to find buyers, at 78 however it is probable that a few shares could be placed. The latest London quotation shows a fall to £7. 5/ for the combined shares. China Manilas have fallen to 11 with sellers without inducing business. Douglasses continue out of favour at 36. Star Ferrys are enquired for at 25 for old and 15 for new shares but we have heard of no business, the shares being pretty firmly held for higher rates; Shells have declined in London to 27/9 for name Shares, and to 57/6 buyers here for bearer shares.

REFINERIES.—The market has been very dull and we have no changes or business to report.

MINING.—With the exception of a small sale of Raubs at 7.90 we have no business to report. Charbonages remain in request at 625, Chinese Engineerings are quoted in Shanghai at 18, and here at 17½ ex div of 1/6 per share paid on the 1st Inst.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Dock continue out of favour, and shares have changed hands during the week at 76 and 75, the market however closing with buyers and no sellers at the latter rate. Kowloon Wharfs have been in steady demand, and a few small sales have been effected at 55, the market closing with buyers at 55½ to 56. In Shanghai stocks under this heading we have no business to report, the latest quotations being Docks 85 nom, and Hongkew Wharfs 167 nom.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands continuing in demand the rate rose to 101 after sales at 100 and the stock closes firm with buyers at the higher rate. Humphreys have changed hands at 9 and are in further request. Hotels since the new issue, are quoted at 71 for old and 42 for new shares the latter closing with sellers.

COTTON MILLS.—Ewos have declined in the North to 121 with sellers and Soychees to 400 nom. The other Northern Mills show no changes. Hongkong Cottons have found further buyers at 8½.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Langkats have boomed in the North to 1200, China Borneos have been placed at 12½, Cements at 8.90 and 8.80 and Weismans at 125. Dairy Farms have declined to 16½, without business. Electrics have improved to 18½ ex div paid on 26th Ult, and Union Waterboats to 10½ with buyers. China Lights also show an improvement to 5 after sales at 4½. We have nothing further to report under this heading.

Quotations are as follows:—

STOCKS	PAID UP	QUOTATIONS
Alhambra, Ltd.	Ps. 200	Nominal
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai	\$125	\$945, sellers \$89.10.0
National B. of China	£6	\$51, buyers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	12/6d.	\$104, buyers
China-Borneo Co.	\$12	\$12½, sales
China Light & P. Co.	\$10	\$5, buyers
China Provident	\$10	\$9½, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo Cotton S. & W.	Tls. 50	Tls. 121
Hongkong C. S. Co.	\$10	\$8½, sales
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 91
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 112
Soychee	Tls. 50	Tls. 400
Dairy Farm Co.	\$6	\$16½, sellers
Docks & Wharves—		
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$56, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$75, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$34	\$9½, buyers
Shanghai Dock and Eng. Co., Ltd.	Tls. 100	Tls. 85
S'hai & H. Wharf	Tls. 100	Tls. 167
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$11, sellers
G. Island Cement Co.	\$10	\$8.90, sellers
Hongkong & C. Gas	£10	\$210, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$18½, buyers
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50	\$71, (old)
	\$25	\$42, (n.) sal. & sel.
Hongkong Ice Co.	\$25	\$155, sellers
H.K. Milling Co., Ltd.	\$100	Nominal
H'kong Rope M. Co.	\$10	\$24, sellers
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$190, buyers
China Fire	\$20	\$106, buyers
China Traders	\$25	\$85½, buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$337½, sellers
North China	£5	Tls. 104, x.d., buy.
Union	\$100	\$20, buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$202½, buyers
Land and Buildings—		
H'kong Land Invest.	\$100	\$101, buyers
Humphrey's Estate	\$10	\$9, sales & buyers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$30
Shanghai Land	Tls. 50	Tls. 118
West Point Building	\$50	\$44
Mining—		
S. F. des C. du T'kin	Fs. 250	\$625, buyers
Raub	18/10d.	\$7 90, sales
Peak Tramways Co., Ltd.	\$10	\$14
	\$1	\$2
Philippine Co., Ltd.	\$10	\$8, sellers
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$137½, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$16, sellers
Robinson Piano Co.	\$50	\$50
Steamship Companies		
China and Manila	\$25	\$11, sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$36, sellers
H., Canton & M.	\$15	\$31½, buyers
Indo-China S. N. Co.	£5	\$50, } L'don \$28, } £75.0
Shell Transport Co.	£1	\$57/6
Star Ferry	\$10	\$25, buyers
	\$5	\$15, buyers
South China M. Post	\$25	\$24, sellers
Steam Laundry Co.	\$5	\$5½, sellers
Stores & Dispensaries—		
Campbell, M. & Co.	\$10	\$12, buyers
Wm. Powell, Ltd.	\$7	\$2½, buyers
Watkins, Ltd.	\$10	\$3½, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$9, sales
Weissmann, Ltd.	\$100	\$125, sales
United Asbestos	\$4	\$12½
	\$10	\$230
Union Waterboat Co.	\$10	\$104, buyers

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

SHANGHAI SHARE QUOTATIONS.

29th April, 1909.

COMPANY.	PAID UP	QUOTATION.
Banks—		
Nongkong & S'hai	\$125	\$990, sellers
National of China	£6	\$51, buyers
Russo-Chinese	R187½ T125	Tls. 175
Insurance—		
Union Society C'tn	\$100	\$778, ex. div.
North-China	£5	Tls. 105, buyers
Yangtze Assocn.	\$60	\$235, buyers
Canton	\$50	\$195, sales
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$337½, sales
China Fire	\$20	\$107, sales
Shipping—		
Indo-China { pref. } { def. }		Tls. 60 buyers
Shell Trans. { ord. }	£1	\$22.14.6
& Trading { pref. }	10	\$29.10.0
S'hai Tug & { ord. }	T50	Tls. 52½, buyers
Lighter { pref. }	T50	Tls. 55, buyers
Taku Tug & Lighter	T50	Tls. 48
Kochien Transport- ation & Tow Boat	T50	Tls. 45, sales
Docks & Wharves—		
S'hai Dock & Eng.	T100	Tls. 85½, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$91, sellers
S. & H'kew Wharf	T100	Tls. 168, sellers
H. K'loon W. & G.	\$50	\$45, sellers
Yangtze	T100	Tls. 217½
Sugar Companies—		
Perak Cultivation	T50	Tls. 160, buyers
China Refining	\$100	\$112½, buyers
Mining—		
Raub Australian	£1 18/10	\$8, buyers
Chinese Eng. & Min.	£1	Tls. 18
Lands—		
S'hai Investment	T50	Tls. 18, buyers
H'kong Investment	\$100	\$93
Humphreys' Estate	\$10	\$104
Wei-hai-wei	T25	Tls. 8, buyers
China	T50	Tls. 50, sellers
Anglo-French	T100	Tls. 101, buyers
Cotton—		
Ewo	T50	Tls. 123, sales
International	T75	Tls. 92
Laou Kung Mow	T100	Tls. 112
Soy Chee	T500	Tls. 405
Industrial—		
Shanghai Gas	T50	Tls. 113, buyers
Major Brothers	T50	Tls. 40, buyers
Shanghai Ice	T25	Tls. 14
China Flour Mill	T50	Tls. 39, sellers
S'hai Pulp & Paper	T100	Tls. 45, sellers
Green Is. Cement	\$10	\$9½, sales
Maatschappij, & Co. in Langkat	Gs. 100	Tls. 1,065, sellers
Shanghai - Sumatra Tobacco	T20	Tls. 132½, sellers
S'hai Waterworks	£20	Tls. 415, sales
Anglo-Ger. Brewery	100	\$80, sellers
A. Butler Cement Tile Works	50	Tls. 20, sales
Kalumpang Rubber	50	Tls. 115, buyers
S. R'ber Estates	T100	Tls. 155, buyers
T. R. & T. Estate Co.	T10	Tls. 11, buyers
Eastern Fibre	\$10	
Shanghai Electric Construction	£10	£8.7.6, sellers
Miscellaneous—		
Hall & Holtz	\$20	\$23, buyers
A. Llewellyn	\$60	\$65
A. S. Watson & Co.	\$10	\$9
Central Ordinary	\$15	\$18½, buyers
Central Founders	\$15	\$400, buyers
S. Moutrie & Co.	\$50	\$45, sales
Weeks & Co.	\$20	\$26, sellers
Astor House Hotel	\$25	\$20½, sellers
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50.00	Tls. 90, sellers
Hotel des Colonies	T12.50	Tls. 6, sellers
Lane, Crawford & Co.	100	\$152½, buyers
Dunning & Co.	50	\$35, sales
S'hai Horse Bazar	T50	Tls. 52, buyers
S'hai Mercury	T50	Tls. 50
S'hai Mutual Tele.	T50	Tls. 62, buyers
China Im. & Ex. Lumber	T100	Tls. 83, sellers
Shanghai Electric & Asbestos	\$25	\$23, sales
Dallas Horse Re- pository	T50	Tls. 25
Printing Co.	T50	Tls. 50

J. P. BISSET & Co.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. in their Share Report for the week ending April 29th, state:— We have to report a good business chiefly in Langkats, Sumatras, Cotton shares and Docks during the past week, with fairly strong markets. H. & S. Bank has been placed on the 23rd at \$992 and on the 26th at 985, both at Ex. 73. The T.T. rate on London to-day is 2/4½. Insurance.—No business reported. Shipping.—A good business has been done in Indo-Chinas. The market opened on the 22nd with business for April delivery at Tls. 53½, 53, 54, 55 and 56 for June. On the 23rd 55 cash, 56, 56½ for June and 57 for July. On the 24th at 57 June, on the 26th at 57 June and 58½ July. On the 27th again at 58 for June, and on the 28th at 60 for June. The market closes with buyers at 58½ for cash and 60½ for June. Shanghai Tugs. Ordinary shares have been placed at Tls. 51, 52 and 52½, and Preference at 55. The market is steady with buyers at these rates. Kochins have been placed at Tls. 45. Docks & Wharves.—Shanghai Dock & Engineering Company. A demand continued for these shares and resulted in sales for June at Tls. 82 and 86 for cash, Tls. 88, 87 and 88½ for June. The market closes quiet and nominal at Tls. 85 for cash and sellers at 87 for June. Shanghai & Hongkew Wharves have been placed at Tls. 167/168 for cash, 169 and 170 for June. There are sellers at the latter rates both for cash and June. Sugars.—Perak Sugars. We have to note a considerable advance in these from Tls. 127½ cash, to Tls. 150 and 160, at all of which rates business has been done. The market closes quiet with sellers at Tls. 160. Mining.—No business reported. Lands.—Shanghai Lands have been placed at Tls. 118 and are wanted at this rate for cash. Anglo-French Lands have been placed at 101. Industrial.—Cotton Stocks. Ewos have been placed at Tls. 121 for cash, 123, 124, 125, 125½ and 126 for June. On the 25th/27th shares were placed for cash at Tls. 123, 126 for June. The market closes easier with sellers at Tls. 123 for cash and 125½ for June. Internationals have been placed at Tls. 91 for cash and 94/94½ for June. There are sellers for June at the latter rate. Laou Kung Mows. Shares have been placed at Tls. 113, 114, 115 and 115½ for June. At the close there are sellers for June at 115. Soychees have been placed at Tls. 405 for cash. Green Islands have been placed this week at \$9½ ex. 73. Shanghai Ice shares have been placed at Tls. 15, and are inquired for. Maatschappij & Co. in Langkats. The market opened on the 22nd with sales at Tls. 1,067½, 1,065 and 1,060 for June. On the 23rd at 1,065 and 1,070 for June. On the 24th at 1,055 cash and 1,075 for June. On the 26th at 1,065 cash, 1,100, 1,085, 1,090 June. The Market closes firm with sales reported direct at 1,090 for June. Sumatras. A good business has been done in these at Tls. 135, 137 June. Shares are now wanted at Tls. 132½ for June and Tls. 135 September. Kalumpungs have been placed at Tls. 102, 104 and 105. A sudden demand for shares to-day raised the market to Tls. 113 buyers. Senawangs. Shares have been placed at Tls. 160 and 165, and are now offering at 160. The General Meeting of this Company takes place to-morrow. Tebongs. Shares changed hands at Tls. 10½ and are offering at 11. Miscellaneous.—Weeks & Co. shares are offering at \$26. Astors at \$20½. Hotel des Colonies at Tls. 6. Dunning's have change hands at \$35. Telephones are offering at Tls. 62½. Deben-tures. Six per cent have a steady inquiry at Tls. 103, none offering under Tls. 104.

FREIGHT.

Hankow, 21st April.—Per Conference Steamers To London and Northern Continental ports 47/6 per ton of 40 cft. plus river freight. To Genoa, Marseilles or Havre 47/6 per ton of 40 cft. plus river freight. To New York (via Suez) General Cargo 32/- per ton of 40 cft. plus river freight. To New York (via Suez), Tea 37/6 per ton of 40 cft. plus river freight. To New York (Overland) per carload; Tea G. \$1.50 cents per lb gross; less than carload Tea G. \$1.75 cents per lb gross; plus river freight. To Shanghai:—Tea and Generals Cargo, Tls. 1.80 per ton, weight or measurement.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.— HONGKONG, May 10th.	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bank Bills, on demand	1/9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bank Bills at 4 months' sight	1/9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Documentary Bills, 4 months sight	1/10 $\frac{1}{2}$
ON PARIS.—Bank Bills, on demand	227 $\frac{1}{2}$
Credits 4 months' sight	231 $\frac{1}{2}$
ON GERMANY.—On demand	185
ON NEW YORK.—Bank Bills, on demand	45
Credits, 60 days' sight	45 $\frac{1}{2}$
ON BOMBAY.—Telegraphic Transfer	135 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bank, on demand	136
ON CALCUTTA.—Telegraphic Transfer	135 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bank on demand	136
ON SHANGHAI.—Bank, at sight	74 $\frac{1}{2}$
Private, 30 days' sight	75 $\frac{1}{2}$
ON YOKOHAMA.—On demand	88
ON MANILA.—On demand	89
ON SINGAPORE.—On demand	77 $\frac{1}{2}$
ON BATAVIA.—On demand	108 $\frac{1}{2}$
ON HAIPHONG.—On demand	10 $\frac{1}{2}$ p.c. pm.
ON SAIGON.—On demand	10 p.c. pm.
ON BANGKOK.—On demand	83 $\frac{1}{2}$
STEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$10.95
GOLD LEAF 100 fine, per tael	\$57.40
BAR SILVER per oz	24 $\frac{7}{16}$

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

April:—

ARRIVALS.

- 28, Victoria, Swedish str., from Sourabaya.
- 29, Indramayo, British str., from Shanghai.
- 29, Mandasan M., Jap. str., from Muks.
- 29, Scandia, German str., from Singapore.
- 30, Assaye, British str., from Shanghai.
- 30, Benarty, British str., from Singapore.
- 30, Frithjof, Norwegian str., from Saigon.
- 30, Glenfalloch, British str., from Singapore.
- 30, Haimun, British str., from Swatow.
- 30, Japan, British str., from Moji.
- 30, Paklat, German str., from Bangkok.
- 30, Tean, British str., from Manila.

May:—

- 1, Alcides, 4 m. barque, from Kobe.
- 1, Amigo, German str., from Hoihow.
- 1, Bourbon, French str., from Saigon.
- 1, China, Am. str., from San Francisco.
- 1, Hanyang, British str., from Wuhu.
- 1, Hongkong, French str., from Hoihow.
- 1, Machaon, British str., from Shanghai.
- 1, Manila, Ger. str., from Sydney.
- 1, Marie, German str., from Newchwang.
- 1, Tjipanah, Dutch str., from Amoy.
- 2, Chinhua, British str., from Shanghai.
- 2, Glenogle, British str., from Singapore.
- 2, Haitan, British str., from Swatow.
- 2, Helios, Norwegian str., from Swatow.
- 2, Kamor, Norwegian str., from Haiphong.
- 2, Kowloon, German str., from Wuhu.
- 2, Landrat Scheiff, Ger. str., from Wuhu.
- 2, Theseus, British str., from Liverpool.
- 3, Astabula, British str., from Shanghai.
- 3, Binh Thuan, Fr. str., from Wuhu.
- 3, Kaifong, British str., from Iloilo.
- 3, Knivsberg, German str., from Hoihow.
- 3, Lightning, British str., from Singapore.
- 3, Miyasaki Maru, Jap. str., from Yokohama.
- 3, Montague, British str., from Vancouver.
- 3, Montrose, British str., from Hongay.
- 3, Pathan, British str., from Liverpool.
- 3, Thordis, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
- 3, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
- 3, Zafiro, British str., from Manila.
- 4, Anghui, German str., from Bangkok.
- 4, Buelow, German str., from Yokohama.
- 4, Choysang, British str., from Shanghai.
- 4, Haimun, British str., from Swatow.
- 4, Kwangtah, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
- 4, Machew, German str., from Bangkok.
- 4, Nubia, British str., from Yokohama.
- 4, Palermo, British str., from Manila.
- 4, Providence, Nor. str., from Saigon.
- 4, Quinta, German str., from Newchwang.
- 4, Sado Maru Jap. str., from London.
- 4, Tjibodas, Dutch str., from Macassar.
- 4, Volute, British str., from Singapore.
- 4, Wakamatsu M., Jap. str., from Wakamatsu.
- 5, Chenan, British str., from Shanghai.
- 5, Daigi Maru, Jap. str., from Tamsui.
- 5, Haiyang, British str., from Coast Ports.
- 5, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
- 5, Hikosan M., Jap. str., from Kutchinotzu.

April:—

DEPARTURES.

- 30, Austria, Austrian str., for Singapore.
- 30, Fukura Maru, Jap. str., for Shiwayau.
- 30, Haiching, British str., for Swatow.
- 30, Kumsang, British str., for Singapore.
- 30, Kwangse, British str., for Shanghai.

May:—

- 1, Assaye, British str., for Europe, &c.
- 1, Cheongshing, British str., for Swatow.
- 1, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
- 1, Drufar, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
- 1, Foochow, British str., for Shanghai.
- 1, Fooshing, British str., for Shanghai.
- 1, Indian Monarch, British str., for Dalny.
- 1, Indramayo, British str., for Singapore.
- 1, Keemun, British str., for Saigon.
- 1, Kwongsang, British str., for Ningpo.
- 1, Petchaburi, German str., for Bangkok.
- 1, Pheumpenh, British str., for Saigon.
- 1, Rubi, British str., for Manila.
- 2, Anhui, British str., for Shanghai.
- 2, Benarty, British str., for Nagasaki.
- 2, Chowtai, German str., for Swatow.
- 2, Daijin Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
- 2, Glenfalloch, British str., for Amoy.
- 2, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
- 2, Mandasan Maru, Japanese for Muks.
- 3, Gregory Apcar, Br. str., for Shanghai.
- 3, Liangchow, British str., for Shanghai.
- 3, Tungshing, British str., for Shanghai.
- 4, Benalder, British str., for Saigon.
- 4, Derwent, British str., for Saigon.
- 4, Devawongse, German str., for Bangkok.
- 4, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
- 4, Haldis, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
- 4, Lothian, British str., for Callao.
- 4, Machaon, British str., for Singapore.
- 4, Mathilde, German str., for Newchwang.
- 4, Paoting, British str., for Singapore.
- 4, Pathan, British str., for Shanghai.
- 4, Siberia, American str., for Shanghai.
- 4, Tean, British str., for Manila.
- 4, Theseus, British str., for Shanghai.
- 4, Tjipanah, Dutch str., for Batavia.
- 4, Triumph, German str., for Haiphong.
- 4, Victoria, Swedish str., for Haiphong.
- 5, Ascania, German str., for Tsingtau.
- 5, Bangkok, German str., for Bangkok.
- 5, Borneo, German str., for Sandakan.
- 5, Buelow, German str., for Europe, &c.
- 5, Chunsang, British str., for Shanghai.
- 5, Glenogle, British str., for Amoy.
- 5, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
- 5, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
- 5, Kamor, Norwegian str., for Haiphong.
- 5, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
- 5, Luchow, British str., for Iloilo.
- 5, Miyasaki Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.
- 5, Nubia, British str., for Singapore.
- 5, Sado Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
- 6, Amigo, German str., for Manila.
- 6, Frithjof, Norwegian str., for Chefoo.
- 6, Minnesota, American str., for Nagasaki.
- 6, Palermo, British str., for Wosung.
- 6, P. E. Friedrich, Ger. str., for Shanghai.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

- Per *Daigi Maru*, from Tamsui, Mr Gutierrez.
- Per *Amigo*, from Hoihow, Messrs. Bos and Leggie.
- Per *Huichow*, from Weihaiwei, Mr Hill and 42 men of the R.G.A.
- Per *Haiyang*, from Swatow, Mrs Lunzelmar, Messrs Thomas and Daniels.
- Per *Haitan*, from Swatow, Messrs B. A. Wennick, N. Lyeeki, P. H. Hills, I. Ollson, Gallon, Fisher and T. Colling.
- Per *Yuensang*, from Manila, Mr and Mrs W. H. Woodhouse, Mrs Maria H. Perez, 2 children and amah, and Mr G. A. Bena.
- Per *Chenan*, from Shanghai, Mr and Mrs Bell, Mr and Mrs Blinderling, Mr and Mrs Nichols, Miss Wellard, Messrs Horby and Fast.
- Per *Miyasaki Maru*, from Japan, &c., Mr and Mrs K. Shiraishi and 2 children, Messrs K. Kondo, H. P. King, D. W. Bell, Lioka and A. E. Roedriguez.

Per *Lightning*, from Calcutta, &c., Mr and Mrs Stevenson, Mrs Marshman Gregory, Miss MacDonald, Signorina Mancine, Messrs W. W. Jukes, D. McCraig, H. Jewell, D. Forsyth, Hamilton and D. K. Pryce.

Per *Buelow*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Mrs Lamperski, Mrs Siebler and Mrs C. R. de Inchansti and son; from Nagasaki, Mr Fukushima; from Shanghai, Dr. Ribbin, Messrs Th. Kring, E. G. Sahlin, Benekham, Stewart, Wolf and family, W. F. Behme, N. A. Goncalves, F. D. Bust, Günzel, F. Brandes, N. Moribald and Lamb van Rye.

Per *Sado Maru*, from London, &c., for Hongkong, Mr and Mrs E. N. Craig, Messrs A. L. Dawson, R. S. Nairn and S. Harada; for Kobe, Mr and Mrs M. Kawamoto, Mrs M. Pakarazer, Mrs T. Miyamoto, Mrs S. Matsunote, Messrs A. M. Raeburn, A. Yawagata, P. Horens, R. Nagashi, K. Mukai and Migawati; for Yokohama, Mr and Mrs E. A. Belcher, Messrs H. Nairns, Belamal and R. Braille.

Per *Monteagle*, for Hongkong, from Vancouver, Mrs J. Monteith, Messrs H. Frankel and W. Pate; from Yokohama, Mr Ficke; from Nagasaki, Messrs S. H. Clarke, L. Torkelsen, L. Jorgensen, H. Sibatker, W. Sibatker, W. Gove, F. Meyers, F. Clare, L. Hansen, M. Hanserstadt, E. Cutlet, P. Walsh, G. Renburg, J. Krause and E. Torrell; from Shanghai, Messrs M. Fitz, W. Schnechner and R. H. Dickeson.

Per *Zafiro*, from Manila, Mr & Mrs Mitchell, Mr and Mrs Ingared, Mr and Mrs Moir, Mr and Mrs Herolet, Mr and Mrs Gilbert, Mr and Mrs Russell, Mr and Mrs Harris, Mr and Mrs Stead, Mr and Mrs Jackson, Mr and Mrs McMurray, Mr and Mrs Clarke, Misses Murray (2), Miss B. Harris, Capt. J. Buttner, Messrs J. N. Wolfson, C. S. Derham, C. W. Villan, Furlong, J. H. Lamb, C. E. Ruth, H. Lang, M. Loving, H. Atwell, J. Rooh, N. Leatham, D. Colt, B. Brindale, W. A. Sloun, W. Stigner, Gempeler and Aveans.

DEPARTED.

Per *Assaye*, for Europe, &c., Mr and Mrs J. C. Peter, Major and Mrs Hole, Mrs and Miss McConnell, Mrs Beebles, Mrs Stewart and family, Misses Anderson, Ellworthy and Deed, Capt. M. Das Neves, Dr. Drummond, Bishop Barlin and party, Rev. W. F. Oldham, Messrs C. Simpson, Wellmann, A. H. Barlow, A. Blass, H. Winterbotham, E. and D. Straker, Willis, Ingram and J. McArthur.

Per *Minnesota*, for Seattle, &c., Mr and Mrs J. S. Fair and 2 children, Mr and Mrs J. C. Norton, Mr and Mrs L. C. Johnstone, Mr and Mrs H. Farmer and 2 children, Mr and Mrs R. M. Kelsey and child, Mr and Mrs O. L. Bowerston, Mr and Mrs W. A. Reed and 2 children, Mr and Mrs H. M. Damon and 2 children, Mr and Mrs A. Battle, Mr and Mrs C. E. Patten, Mr and Mrs Milbank Johnson, Mr and Mrs J. M. Van Hook, Mr and Mrs B. O. Paterson and child, Mr and Mrs Z. K. Miller and 3 children, Mr and Mrs J. C. Muerman, Mr and Mrs M. M. Levering, Mr and Mrs G. W. Gilbert, Mr and Mrs W. H. Woodhouse, Mr and Mrs T. A. Broadfoot, Capt. and Mrs H. P. King, Major and Mrs J. N. Munro, Judge and Mrs Moir, Mrs W. F. Sexton, Mrs J. J. Cheatham and 2 children, Mrs E. E. Capehart, Mrs W. E. Milward, Mrs L. W. McCoy, Mrs W. Tisdale, Mrs M. Moore, Mrs S. Abbott, Mrs E. E. Beckett, Mrs F. O. Roberts and child, Mrs J. Ross, Mrs E. L. Gray, Mrs Murphy and 2 child, Mrs C. W. Franks, Mrs Lamb and 2 children, Mrs J. Austin, Mrs F. W. Fuller, Mrs W. G. Masters, Mrs C. D. Brooks, Mrs T. Jones, Mrs C. M. Jenkins, Mrs Brazee and 4 children, Mrs Jack and 2 children, Mrs Geerts and 3 children, Mrs R. J. Hees and child, Misses M. O'Mara, C. H. Ober, C. J. Lienlap, H. and A. Allmond, M. B. Curtis, V. L. Herrick, H. Dwyer, E. Sutherland, E. Martin, R. Holmes, E. Holmes, L. M. Johnson, E. Johnson, Douglas, E. Hoggsette, L. and J. Jack, Messrs P. Mascaro, P. V. nkeny, E. Pingdengolas, D. W. Britting, J. M. Pearce, J. H. Jenkins, E. Battle, W. Wallace, W. R. Gibson, F. S. Douglas, O. O. Tweed, S. O. Schudder, A. C. Ripp, Geo. W. Vilain, Geo. T. Shoens, T. A. Jennings, J. H. Kipp, W. A. Stegner, E. Rath, J. H. Lamb, A. Watson, W. B. Bundschule and Fred Nilson.

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